PLPG.NEWS SPECIAL ISSUE JUNE 2023

BUSINESS CONCEPT

@BUSINESSCONCEPTMAG

US - COLOMBIA & LATIN AMERICA - BRAZIL - AUSTRALIA - CANADA - ITALY - FRANCE - U.K - SPAIN - PORTUGAL - SWITZERLAND - GERMANY - BELGIUM - NETHERLANDS - POLAND - BULGARIA - GREECE - SOUTH AFRICA - UKRAINE - PHILIPPINES - INDIA - TURKEY - JAPAN - CHINA - TAIWAN - HONG KONG - DUBAI - RUSSIA

CHRIS NGO
CEO/ FOUNDER

LEE RAMIREZ
CO-FOUNDER

THE LEVERAGE

FROM SWEATSHOP TO SUCCESS

Photographed by Vincent Gotti

ELIZABETH BARLOW
PAYING ATTENTION TO BEAUTY WILL TRANSFORM HOW YOU WALK THROUGH THE WORLD

MARKO BELLO
BEYOND THE SURFACE

PAUL HENDERSON
A TRUE FORCE FOR CHANGE

SKY ALTON
CONQUERING THE JOURNEY OF SUCCESS

VISIT…

LANZAROTE
Caliente.COM

Tiffany.com | © 2023 T&CO.

©TIFFANY & CO. Au750
TIFFANY & CO

TIFFANY & CO.

RADIANT ESG
GLOBAL INVESTORS

OUR MISSION IS TO BEAT THE MARKET
BY INVESTING IN COMPANIES
OUR CLIENTS ARE PROUD TO OWN

We are facing a future that looks very different from the past.
We believe the investment winners will be the companies that are on the right side of change, building a sustainable world for generations to come.

For more information on our edge and how we invest for a brighter future,
please visit www.RadiantESG.com or contact us at connect@radiantesg.com

THE BRIGHT FUTURE OF INVESTING™

© RadiantESG Global Investors - All Rights Reserved

DIOR
Christian Dior

DIOR

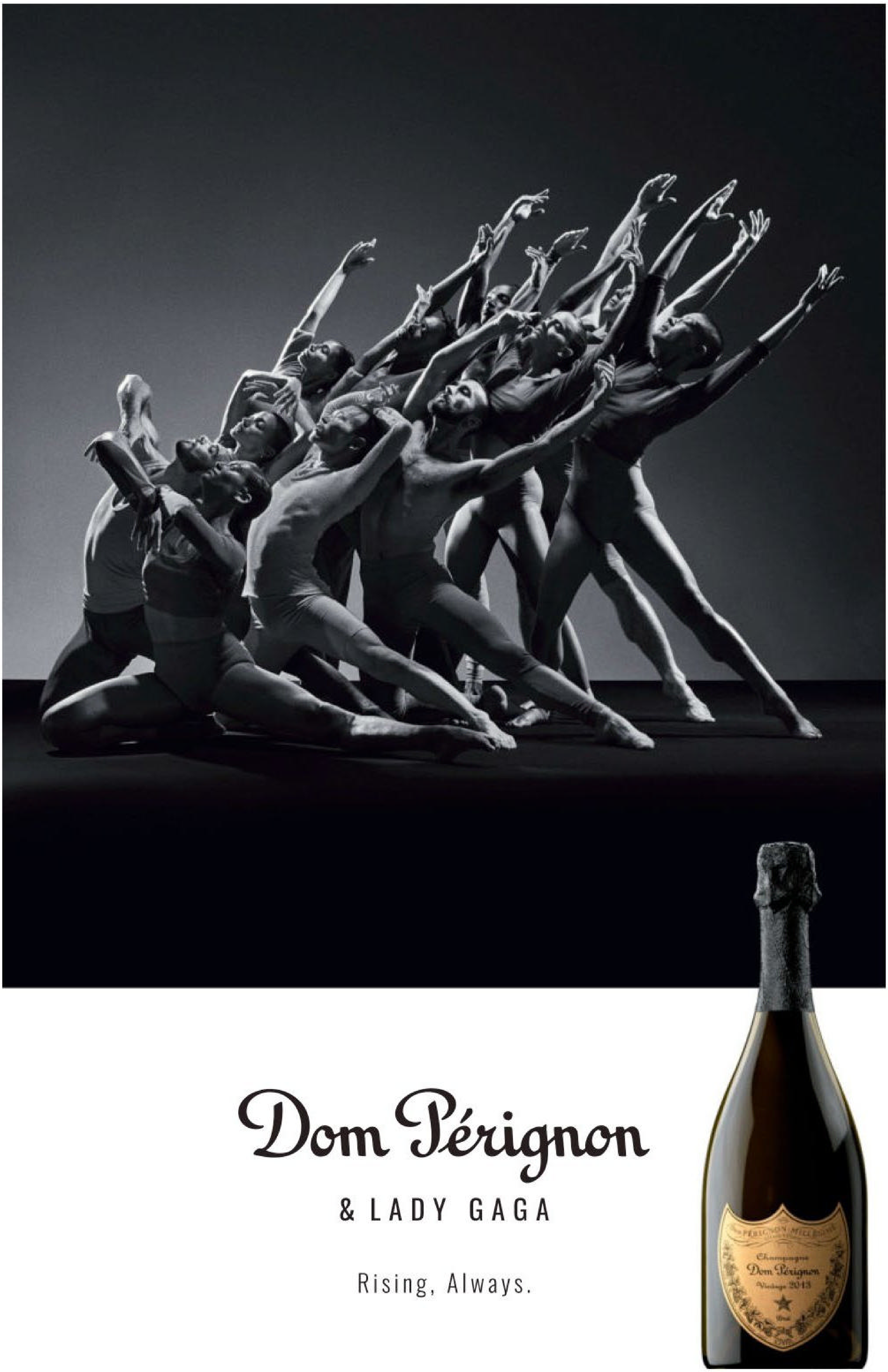
DOLCE&GAB
DG

DOLCE & GABBANA
DOLCEGABBANA.COM

BVLGARI.COM

BVLGARI
ROMA

HIGH JEWELRY


Champagne
Dom Pérignon
Vintage 2013

Dom Pérignon

& LADY GAGA

Rising, Always.

Champagne © 2023 Imported by Moët Hennessy USA Inc., New York, NY. Please drink responsibly.

PENELOPE CRUZ
CHANEL

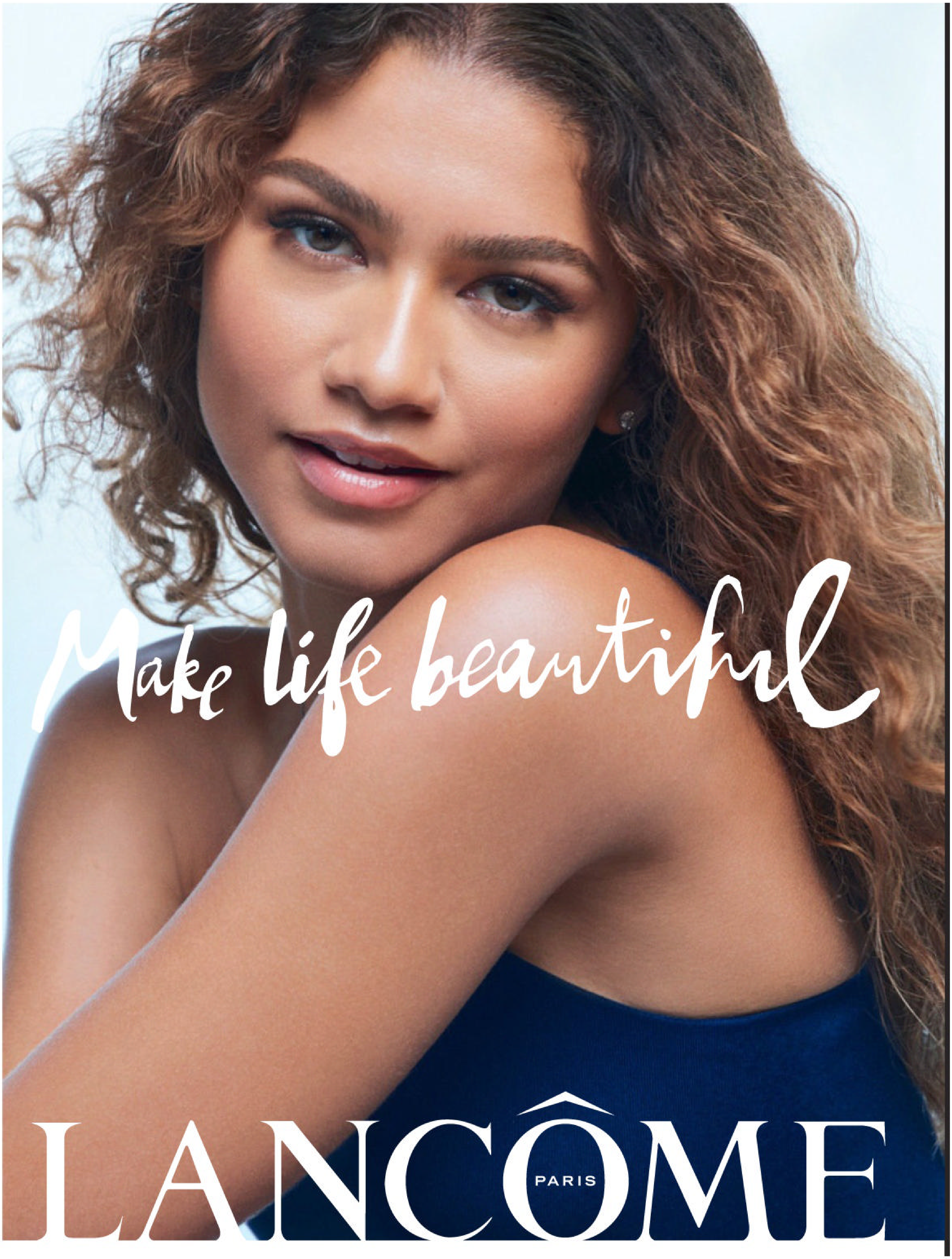
CHANEL
J12
AUTOMATIC
SWISS MADE
12
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
0
15
30
45

CHANEL.COM

J12

IT'S ALL ABOUT SECONDS

La vie est belle


Make life beautiful
LANCÔME
PARIS

Ω
OMEGA
Constellation

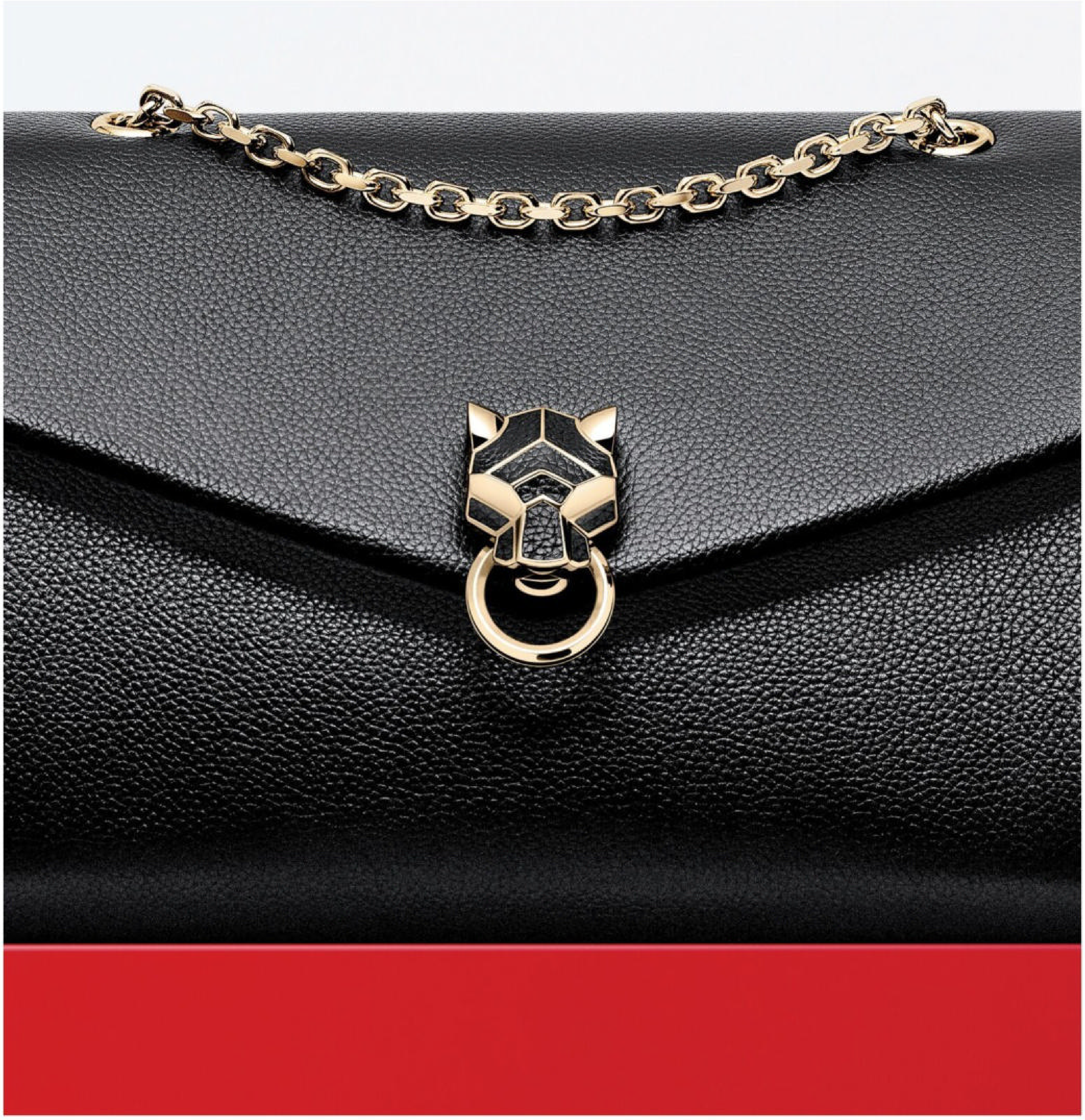
omegawatches.com

CONSTELLATION COLLECTION

NICOLE KIDMAN'S CHOICE

The world knows Nicole Kidman for her excellent performances on screen, style on the red carpet and passionate commitment to women's rights. We know her as a friend. A brand ambassador since 2005, Nicole has wit, grace and exceptional taste in watches. She loves to select a model to suit her mood. Here she wears the Constellation Small Seconds in 18K Sedna™ Gold, with a sun-brushed burgundy dial. A watch with almost as many diamonds as Nicole has awards.

Ω
OMEGA



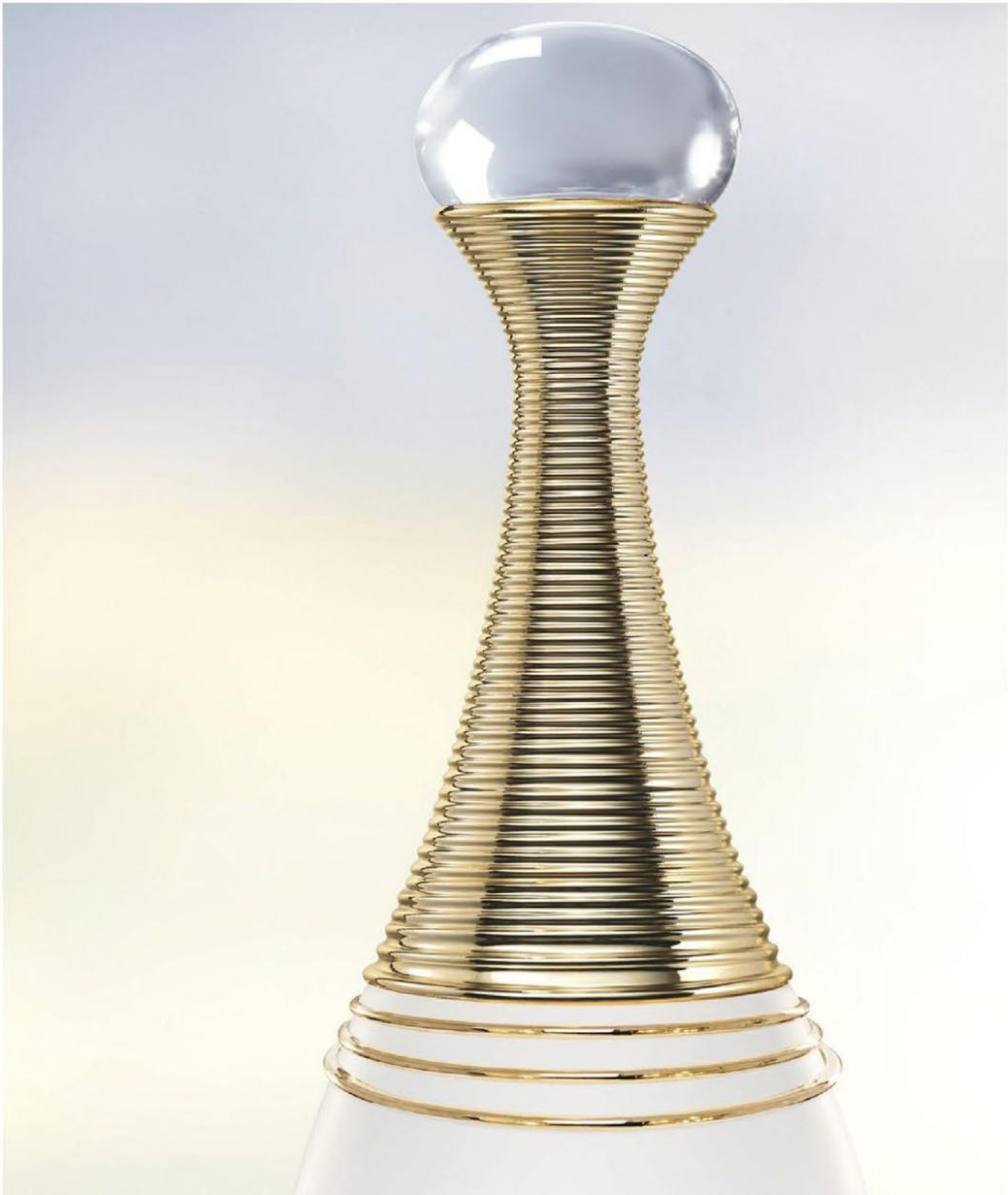
Shop the collection at Cartier.com - 1 800 Cartier

PANTHÈRE
DE
Cartier

JOURNEY BEYOND TIME

LOUIS VUITTON
AUTOMATIQUE
TWENTY
SWISS MADE

LOUIS VUITTON

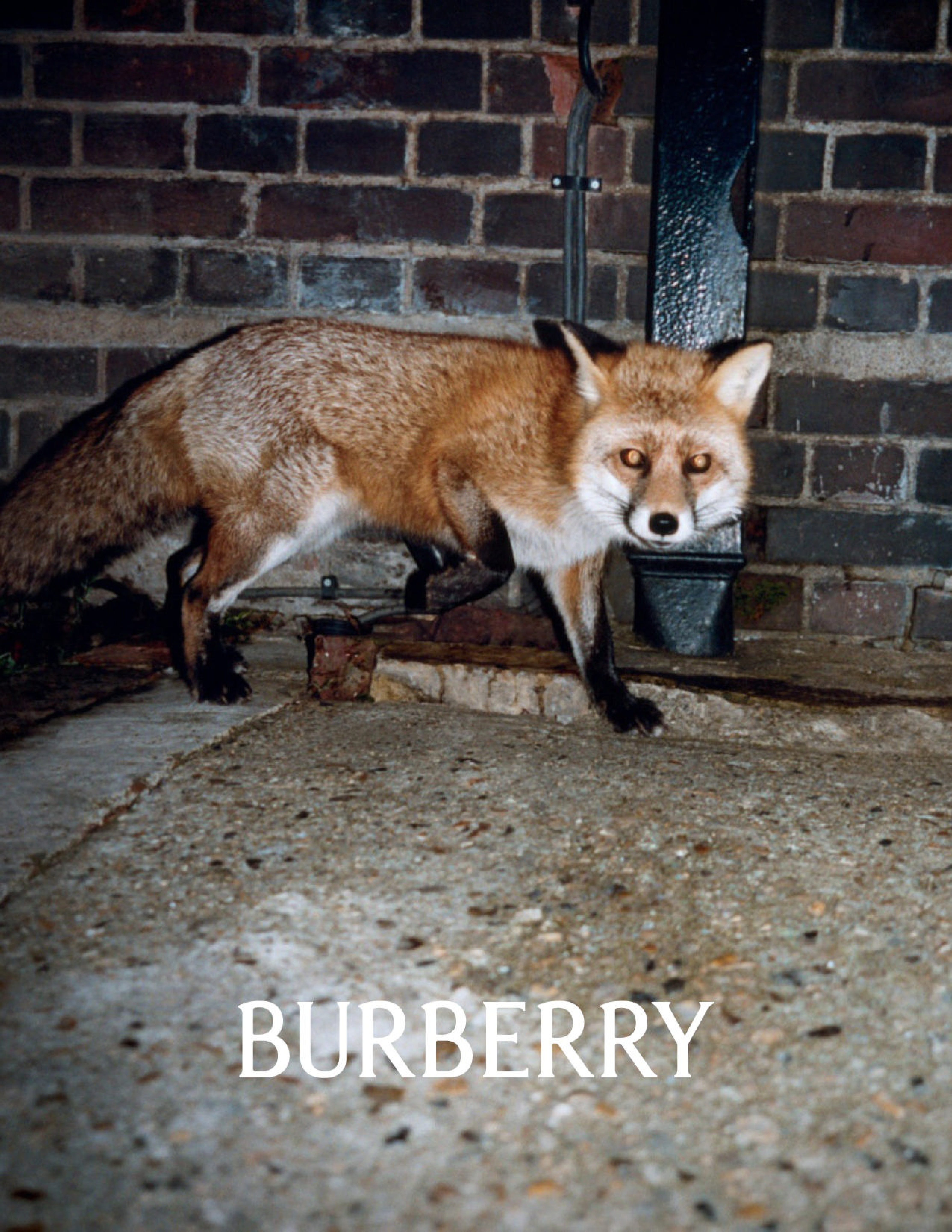

AVAILABLE AT DIOR.COM
THE NEW FRAGRANCE

j'adore
PARFUM D'EAU
DIOR

Elegance is an attitude
Regé-Jean Page

LONGINES

The Longines Legend Diver Watch


BURBERRY

B
PRORSUM
B

WORN BY THE GREATEST DRIVERS.
WORTH THE WILDEST CHASE.
YEARS OF CARRERA
TAG HEUER
THE TAG HEUER CARRERA
THE RACE NEVER STOPS
CARRERA
TAG HEUER
SWISS

TAGHEUER.COM

MARC JACOBS

FENDI BOUTIQUES 888 291 0163 FENDI.COM

© 2023 Estée Lauder Inc.
The One. The Only.
Advanced Night Repair.
Boosts 7 key skin-renewing actions.
FOR ALL AGES, ALL SKINTONES, ALL SKINTYPES.
PATENTED UNTIL 2033.

ESTĒE LAUDER
esteelauder.com

1 Serum
7 Skin
Renewing
Actions
✓ Line Reduction
✓ Firmness
✓ Even Tone
✓ Strengthening
✓ Hydration
✓ Radiance
✓ Anti-Oxidants
ESTĒE LAUDER
ESTĒE
LAUDER
Advanced
Night Repair
Synchronized
Multi-Recovery Complex
Complexe multi-réparation
synchronisée

Advanced Night Repair

Multi-Recovery Serum with our exclusive peptide.

In just 3 weeks, **LINES & WRINKLES** look reduced. In 4 weeks, skin feels **FIRMER**—89% said **ELASTICITY** is improved.[1] Skin is **HYDRATED** and its barrier strengthened immediately. **PORES, EVEN TONE** look improved. Wake up radiant.

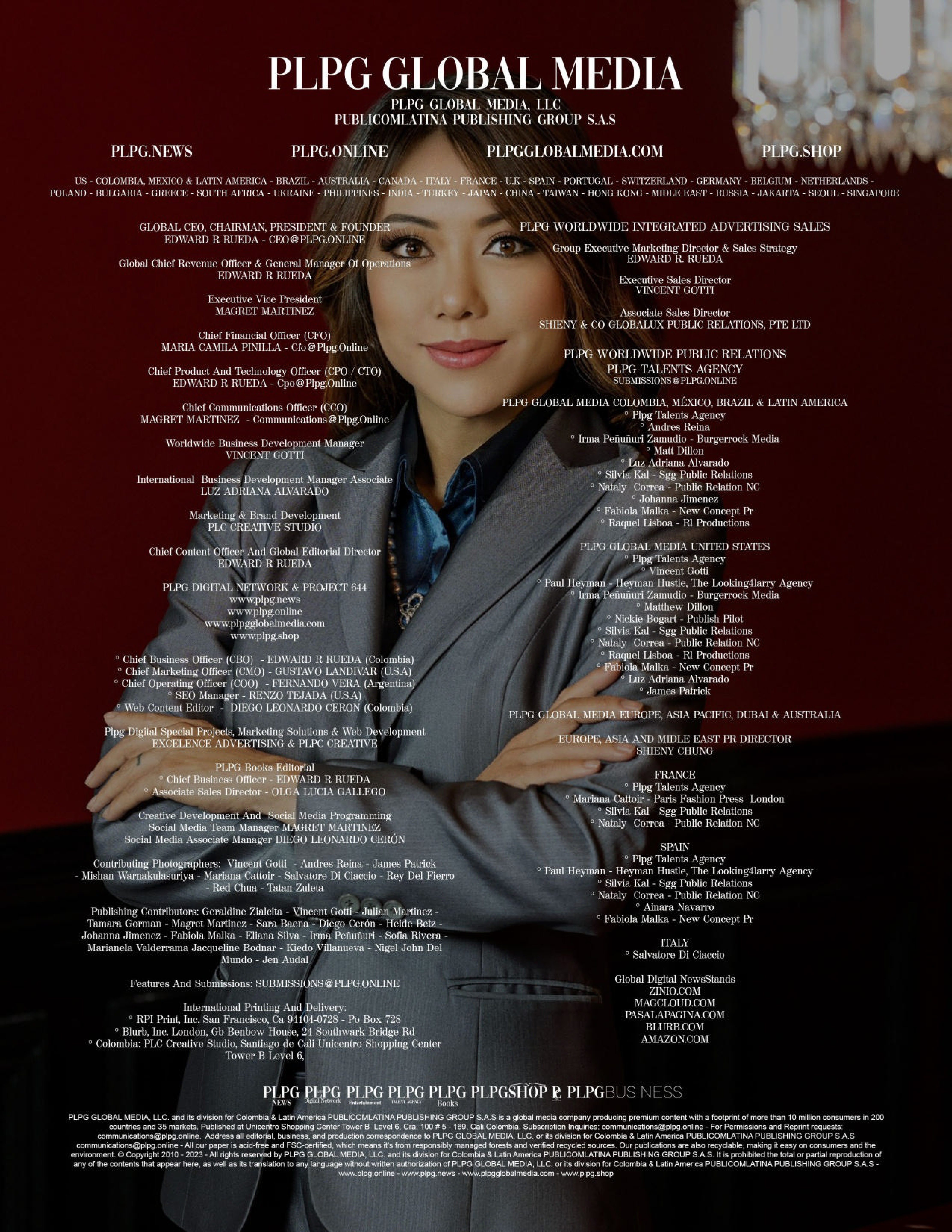
[1] Consumer testing on 543 women after 4 weeks.

BANANA

REPUBLIC
A SEASON OF DARING

VERSACE

VERSACE
VERSACE.COM



PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA

PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC
PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHING GROUP S.A.S

PLPG.NEWS PLPG.ONLINE PLPGGLOBALMEDIA.COM PLPG.SHOP

US - COLOMBIA, MEXICO & LATIN AMERICA - BRAZIL - AUSTRALIA - CANADA - ITALY - FRANCE - U.K - SPAIN - PORTUGAL - SWITZERLAND - GERMANY - BELGIUM - NETHERLANDS - POLAND - BULGARIA - GREECE - SOUTH AFRICA - UKRAINE - PHILIPPINES - INDIA - TURKEY - JAPAN - CHINA - TAIWAN - HONG KONG - MIDLE EAST - RUSSIA - JAKARTA - SEOUL - SINGAPORE

GLOBAL CEO, CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT & FOUNDER
EDWARD R RUEDA - CEO@PLPG.ONLINE

Global Chief Revenue Officer & General Manager Of Operations
EDWARD R RUEDA

Executive Vice President
MAGRET MARTINEZ

Chief Financial Officer (CFO)
MARIA CAMILA PINILLA - Cfo@Plpg.Online

Chief Product And Technology Officer (CPO / CTO)
EDWARD R RUEDA - Cpo@Plpg.Online

Chief Communications Officer (CCO)
MAGRET MARTINEZ - Communications@Plpg.Online

Worldwide Business Development Manager
VINCENT GOTTI

International Business Development Manager Associate
LUZ ADRIANA ALVARADO

Marketing & Brand Development
PLC CREATIVE STUDIO

Chief Content Officer And Global Editorial Director
EDWARD R RUEDA

PLPG DIGITAL NETWORK & PROJECT 644
www.plpg.news
www.plpg.online
www.plpgglobalmedia.com
www.plpg.shop

° Chief Business Officer (CBO) - EDWARD R RUEDA (Colombia)
° Chief Marketing Officer (CMO) - GUSTAVO LANDIVAR (U.S.A)
° Chief Operating Officer (COO) - FERNANDO VERA (Argentina)
° SEO Manager - RENZO TEJADA (U.S.A)
° Web Content Editor - DIEGO LEONARDO CERON (Colombia)

Plpg Digital Special Projects, Marketing Solutions & Web Development
EXCELENCE ADVERTISING & PLPC CREATIVE

PLPG Books Editorial
° Chief Business Officer - EDWARD R RUEDA
° Associate Sales Director - OLGA LUCIA GALLEGO

Creative Development And Social Media Programming
Social Media Team Manager MAGRET MARTINEZ
Social Media Associate Manager DIEGO LEONARDO CERÓN

Contributing Photographers: Vincent Gotti - Andres Reina - James Patrick - Mishan Warnakulasuriya - Mariana Cattoir - Salvatore Di Ciaccio - Rey Del Fierro - Red Chua - Tatan Zuleta

Publishing Contributors: Geraldine Zialcita - Vincent Gotti - Julian Martinez - Tamara Gorman - Magret Martinez - Sara Baena - Diego Cerón - Heide Betz - Johanna Jimenez - Fabiola Malka - Eliana Silva - Irma Peñuñuri - Sofia Rivera - Marianela Valderrama Jacqueline Bodnar - Kiedo Villanueva - Nigel John Del Mundo - Jen Audal

Features And Submissions: SUBMISSIONS@PLPG.ONLINE

International Printing And Delivery:
° RPI Print, Inc. San Francisco, Ca 94104-0728 - Po Box 728
° Blurb, Inc. London, Gb Benbow House, 24 Southwark Bridge Rd
° Colombia: PLC Creative Studio, Santiago de Cali Unicentro Shopping Center Tower B Level 6,

PLPG WORLDWIDE INTEGRATED ADVERTISING SALES

Group Executive Marketing Director & Sales Strategy
EDWARD R. RUEDA

Executive Sales Director
VINCENT GOTTI

Associate Sales Director
SHIENY & CO GLOBALUX PUBLIC RELATIONS, PTE LTD

PLPG WORLDWIDE PUBLIC RELATIONS
PLPG TALENTS AGENCY
SUBMISSIONS@PLPG.ONLINE

PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA COLOMBIA, MÉXICO, BRAZIL & LATIN AMERICA
° Plpg Talents Agency
° Andres Reina
° Irma Peñuñuri Zamudio - Burgerrock Media
° Matt Dillon
° Luz Adriana Alvarado
° Silvia Kal - Sgg Public Relations
° Nataly Correa - Public Relation NC
° Johanna Jimenez
° Fabiola Malka - New Concept Pr
° Raquel Lisboa - Rl Productions

PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA UNITED STATES
° Plpg Talents Agency
° Vincent Gotti
° Paul Heyman - Heyman Hustle, The Looking4larry Agency
° Irma Peñuñuri Zamudio - Burgerrock Media
° Matthew Dillon
° Nickie Bogart - Publish Pilot
° Silvia Kal - Sgg Public Relations
° Nataly Correa - Public Relation NC
° Raquel Lisboa - Rl Productions
° Fabiola Malka - New Concept Pr
° Luz Adriana Alvarado
° James Patrick

PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA EUROPE, ASIA PACIFIC, DUBAI & AUSTRALIA

EUROPE, ASIA AND MIDLE EAST PR DIRECTOR
SHIENY CHUNG

FRANCE
° Plpg Talents Agency
° Mariana Cattoir - Paris Fashion Press London
° Silvia Kal - Sgg Public Relations
° Nataly Correa - Public Relation NC

SPAIN
° Plpg Talents Agency
° Paul Heyman - Heyman Hustle, The Looking4larry Agency
° Silvia Kal - Sgg Public Relations
° Nataly Correa - Public Relation NC
° Ainara Navarro
° Fabiola Malka - New Concept Pr

ITALY
° Salvatore Di Ciaccio

Global Digital NewsStands
ZINIO.COM
MAGCLOUD.COM
PASALAPAGINA.COM
BLURB.COM
AMAZON.COM

PLPG NEWS PLPG Digital Network PLPG Entertainment PLPG TALENT AGENCY PLPG Books PLPGSHOP PLPGBUSINESS

PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC. and its division for Colombia & Latin America PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHING GROUP S.A.S is a global media company producing premium content with a footprint of more than 10 million consumers in 200 countries and 35 markets. Published at Unicentro Shopping Center Tower B Level 6, Cra. 100 # 5 - 169, Cali,Colombia. Subscription Inquiries: communications@plpg.online - For Permissions and Reprint requests: communications@plpg.online. Address all editorial, business, and production correspondence to PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC. or its division for Colombia & Latin America PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHING GROUP S.A.S communications@plpg.online - All our paper is acid-free and FSC-certified, which means it's from responsibly managed forests and verified recycled sources. Our publications are also recyclable, making it easy on consumers and the environment. © Copyright 2010 - 2023 - All rights reserved by PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC. and its division for Colombia & Latin America PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHING GROUP S.A.S. It is prohibited the total or partial reproduction of any of the contents that appear here, as well as its translation to any language without written authorization of PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC. or its division for Colombia & Latin America PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHING GROUP S.A.S - www.plpg.online - www.plpg.news - www.plpgglobalmedia.com - www.plpg.shop

Elegance is an attitude
Jennifer Lawrence
LONGINES
THE LONGINES MASTER COLLECTION

armanibeauty.co.uk

GIORGIO ARMANI
Sì
GIORGIO ARMANI

BUSINESS
CONCEPT

PUBLISHED BY
PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC (U.S.)
& PUBLICOM LATINA PUBLISHING GROUP S.A.S (LATAM)

GLOBAL EDITOR IN CHIEF
EDWARD R RUEDA - ceo@plpg.online

Deputy Editor **VINCENT GOTTI** - Fashion Director & Fashion News Director **MAGRET MARTINEZ** -
Associate Sales Director, **SHIENY & CO GLOBALUX PUBLIC RELATIONS, PTE LTD**
www.Plpg.news Editor **DIEGO LEONARDO CERÓN**

IN THIS ISSUE;
Cover Model/Guest: **THE LEVERAGE** - Cover Photography: **VINCENT GOTTI** -
Public Relations: **VINCENT GOTTI** for **PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA**

External Photographic Services: **GETTY IMAGES**
Copyediting, Design And Layout: **PLC CREATIVE STUDIO @PLC.CREATIVESTUDIO**
Social Media Management: **DIEGO LEONARDO CERÓN M. - PLC CREATIVE STUDIO @PLC.CREATIVESTUDIO**

INTERNATIONAL INTEGRATED ADVERTISING SALES, FEATURES AND SUBMISSIONS
Whatsapp: +1(954)673-8698 - communications@plpg.online

BUSINESS CONCEPT © Copyright 2023 All rights reserved by PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC. and its division for Colombia & Latin America PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHING GROUP S.A.S It is prohibited the total or partial reproduction of any of the contents that appear here, as well as its translation to any language without written authorization of PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC & PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHING GROUP SAS

DG6177 501787
DOLCE & GABBANA
DOLCEGABBANA.COM

DOLCE & GABBANA
DOLCEGABBANA.COM

DG3354 501 DG3352 501

LATINA
12th ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION
Galilea Montijo
LUXURY
Danielle St. Germain
THE SAN FRANCISCO BALLET ISSUE
LUXCLUB
JOCELYN BINDER
LAVISHLY
Isabela Cordoba
Colombian Film, Theater and Television Actress
LUXURY TRAVELER
Luxury Hospitality Industry Disruptor
CHRIS ADAMS
ZILLIONAIRE
EUGENIA KUZMINA
DRESSY
Ainara Navarro
International Fashion Model
DRESSY FOR KIDS
MOTHER'S DAY EDITION
Alexandria Athena Magallanes
DRESSY TEEN
SOFIA VICTORIA OCAMPO
Industrié
NAOMI MALUMA GIGI
SHOWCASES HOW A BOSS IS MADE
FASHION
Sara Baena
W A
ONE OF THE BEST IN HISTORY
NOVAK DJOKOVIC
HUBLOT AMBASSADOR
BUSINESS CONCEPT
A RADIANT APPROACH
INVESTING FOR THE FUTURE
INFLUXES EN ESPAÑOL
ANDREA VALDIRI
SOCIALITE LATINA
FELICIA MERCADO
SHOWBIZ
DIANA NORIS
TUNEUP
JERAU
Slebs
Paola Martinez Rueda
FLG
MALAK HOLT
VULNERABILITY REQUIRES BRAVERY: THE LIFE OF MALAK HOLT
AFRO Inspired
Zeyonce
#MUSIC PRODIGY
MAXHEALTH & BEAUTY
SARA & IRINA
BAENA TALAMBA
FOLLOW Me
55+ MILLION FOLLOWERS ON SOCIAL MEDIA IS MORE THAN A CONTENT CREATOR
Mario Aguilar
DRESSY BRIDES
MOON MAISON
Making Magic With Love
VEGAN
ADRIANA LONDOÑO
SPORTS
ERLING HAALAND
MESA&BAR
TOP CHEFS OF SAN FRANCISCO
PEDIGREE
A KINDRED SPIRIT
HOMEDECO
VANGO
Life on Canvas
ArtScene+
GAMERSKIN
SUPER MARIO BROS. MOVIE

SWIMLUXE
YULI RUIZ
NEB
LINDSAY RILEY
Sara Frenza
Women's Nutrition + Fitness Coach
GREIS PAEZ
DANIELA VELEZ
GIGI
Photographed by Vincent Gotti
SLINKY
Stunning Model and Social Media Star
Yana Weiman
7SINS
Nataly
Correa
MOAN
Tatiana
Torres
Ms V
Intimately With
Juliet Amelia
ILEANA MACRI
CVRVY
glam
BEYONCÉ
AFFAIR
ROSIE GARCIA
S&G
SEXY & GLAMOROUS
Janna
Breslin
MAEVE
SULTRY
Suelyn Medeiros
Sybarité
DIWATA
UNVEIL
STEALTHY
KAWAII
BIJOU
AutoShow
LAURA
SOULIOS
A WOMAN PASSIONATE ABOUT LUXURY CARS
JANNA BRESLIN
IREZUMI
Jaymie
Mares
EUGENE CHOI
BASTIAN
KARIM

WE ARE LUXURY MEDIA EXPERTS
PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA
PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC
PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHING GROUP S.A.S
WWW.PLPG.NEWS
WWW.PLPG.ONLINE
WWW.PLPGGLOBALMEDIA.COM
WWW.PLPGSHOP.COM
@PLPG.GLOBALMEDIA
PLPG NEWS
PLPG Entertainment
PLPG Global Network
PLPG TALENT AGENCY
PLPG Books
PLPGSHOP
PLPGBUSINESS
US - COLOMBIA, MEXICO & LATIN AMERICA - BRAZIL - AUSTRALIA - CANADA - ITALY - FRANCE - U.K. - SPAIN - PORTUGAL - SWITZERLAND - GERMANY - BELGIUM - NETHERLANDS - POLAND - BULGARIA - GREECE - SOUTH AFRICA - UKRAINE - PHILIPPINES - INDIA - TURKEY - JAPAN - CHINA - TAIWAN - HONG KONG - DUBAI - RUSSIA

HUBLOT

HUBLOT

BIG BANG UNICO

18K King Gold and ceramic case.
In-house UNICO chronograph movement.

hublot.com • f • •

DIOR BOUTIQUES 800.929.DIOR (3467) DIOR.COM

LADY 95.22 SERIES
RACHELE REGINI *by* BRIGITTE LACOMBE

DIOR

BUSINESS
CONCEPT

PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA
COLLECTOR'S EDITION
WWW.PLPG.NEWS
BUSINESS
CONCEPT
@BUSINESSCONCEPTMAG
APR
2023
MANILA'
INTERESTING FEM
CELESTE LECAROZ • KHRISTINA MANANSALA • ADA PANOPIO •
SUMMER DE GUIA • ADDIE CUKINGNAN •
CONCEPT
BUSINESS
CONCEPT
Subscribe Now
Explore
Ver Todo
Recent Issues
Ver Todo
Inicio
Explorar
Biblioteca
Buscar
Perfil

BUSINESS CONCEPT MAGAZINE | March 2022

Nyc Penthouse Once Owned By Cher & Britney Spears!

The Silk Building is one of the only full-service lofts conversion buildings in Noho. Built in 1908, the building has 56 residences and a 24-hour...

2 min

PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA
PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC
PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHING GROUP S.A.S

SUBSCRIBE NOW AND ENJOY OUR EXCLUSIVE CONTENT

USD 29.99
12 ISSUES

FIND US ON
ZINIO
a Naviga company

GET IT ON
Google Play

Download on the
App Store

RICHARD MILLE

CALIBER RM 72-01

www.richardmille.com

JIMMY CHOO
SPRING 2023
JIMMYCHOO.COM

PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA
PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC
PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHING GROUP S.A.S

READ US ON

ZINIO

THE NUMBER ONE PLATFORM FOR INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL MAGAZINES

We have something for everyone from Luxury LifeStyle, Fashion News and Business to Celebrity and Gossip magazines

Save time with us by purchasing a digital magazine with instant delivery to your library, access our magazines across multiple devices and enjoy at an affordable price

WE ARE LUXURY ME
PLPG GLOBA
PLPG GLOBAL MEDI
PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHIN
WWW.PLPG.NEWS
WWW.PLPG.ONLINE
@PLPG GLOBAL M

Available on the App Store
GET IT ON Google Play

WWW.PLPG.NEWS

WWW.PLPG.ONLINE

BOSS.COM
BOSS
BOTTLED
BOSS
HUGO BOSS

SS23 CAMPAIGN
GIGI HADID
PHOTOGRAPHED BY HEJI SHIN

GIVENCHY

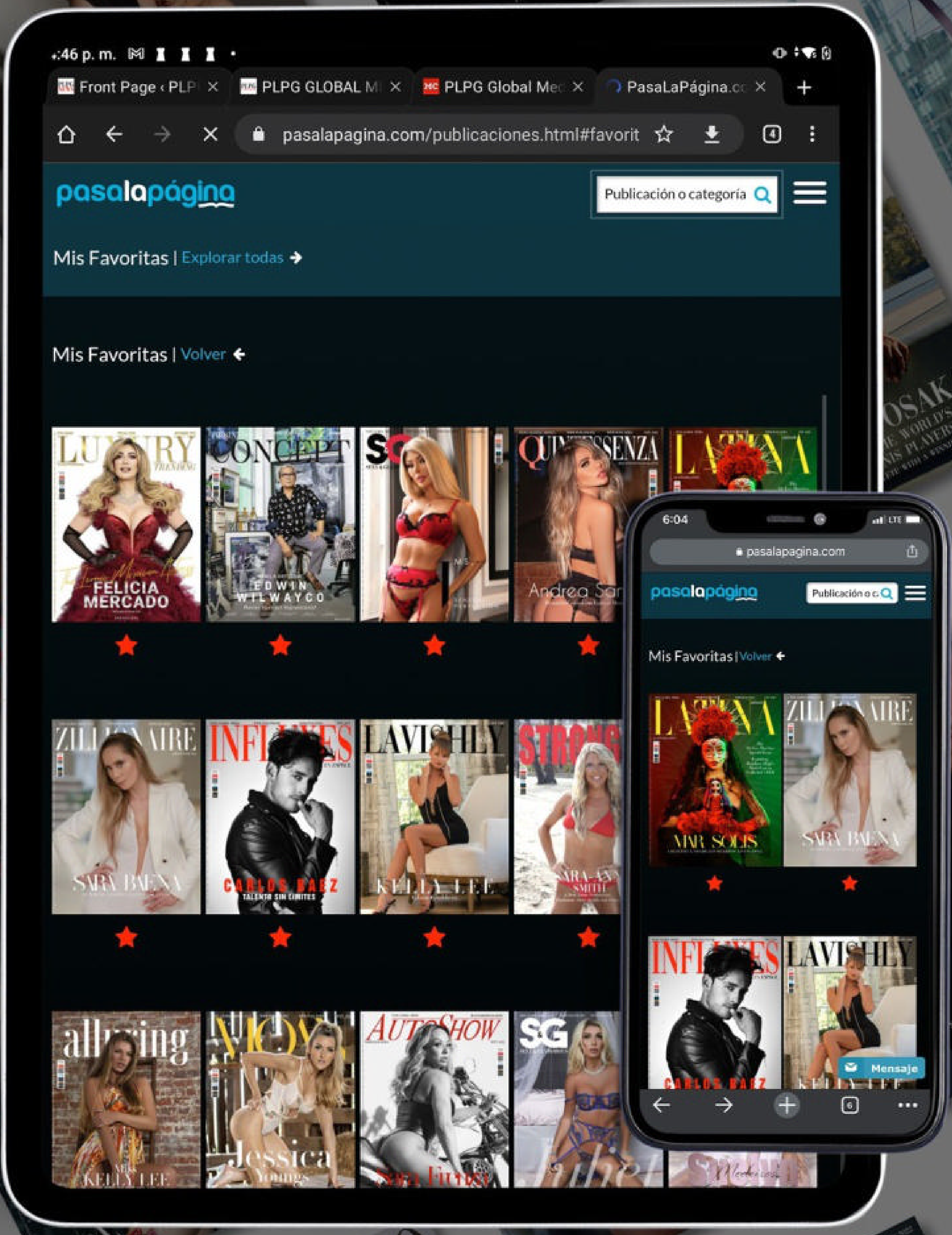
PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA

PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC
PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHING GROUP S.A.S

ALL YOU CAN READ...

pasalapágina

ENJOY ALL OUR MAGAZINES ON YOUR MOBILE OR TABLET
SIGN UP AND DOWNLOAD THE PASALAPAGINA APP


Front Page ‹ PLP
PLPG GLOBAL M
PLPG Global Me
PasaLaPágina.c
pasalapagina.com/publicaciones.html#favorit
pasalapágina
Publicación o categoría
Mis Favoritas | Explorar todas
Mis Favoritas | Volver
pasalapagina.com
Mensaje

GET IT ON Google Play

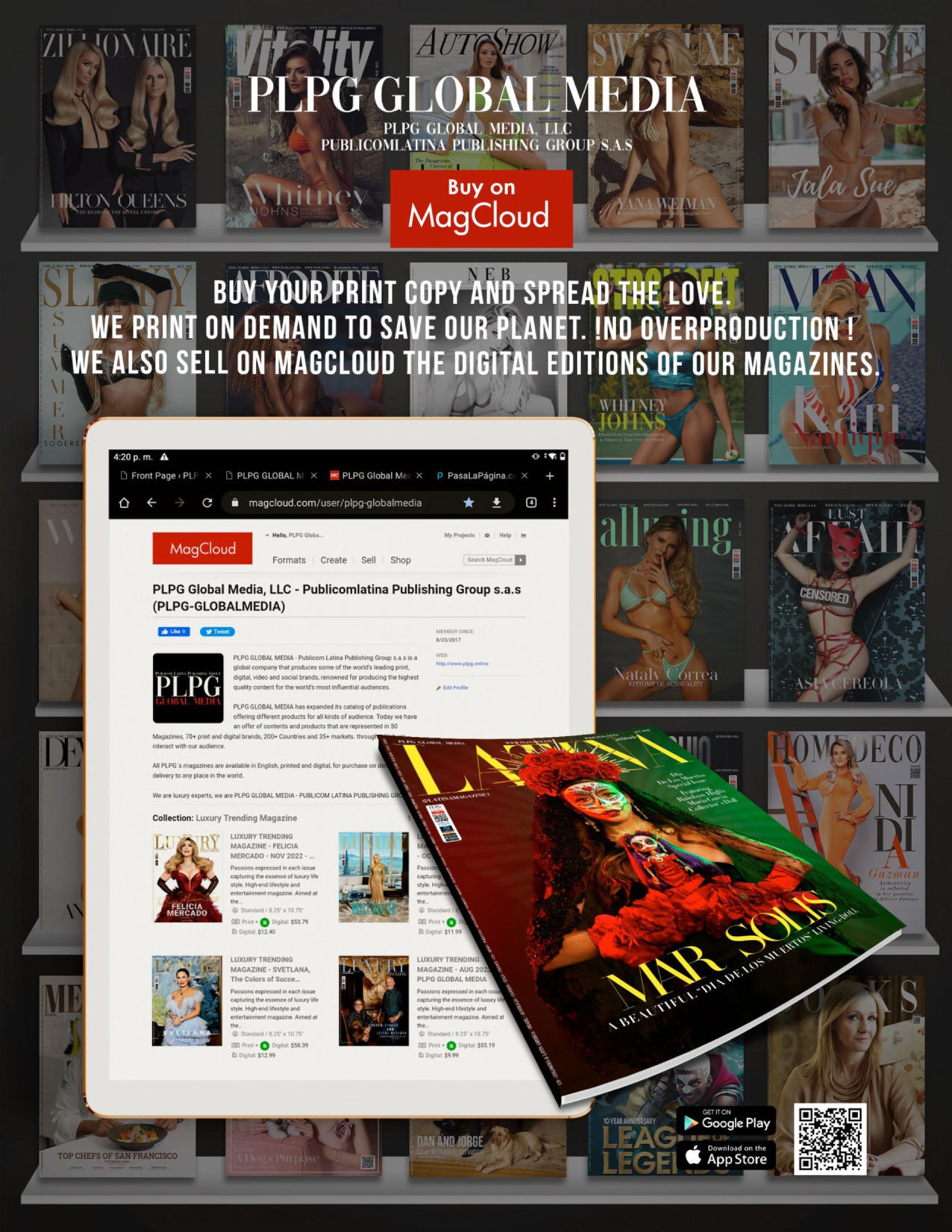
Download on the App Store

PASALAPAGINA.COM

Chopard
HAUTE JOAILLERIE

CHOPARD BOUTIQUES
NEW YORK 730 Fifth Avenue – MIAMI Bal Harbour Shops – COSTA MESA South Coast Plaza
1-800-CHOPARD www.chopard.com

GUCCI
gucci.com
#GucciJackie1961


PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA
PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC
PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHING GROUP S.A.S
Buy on MagCloud
BUY YOUR PRINT COPY AND SPREAD THE LOVE.
WE PRINT ON DEMAND TO SAVE OUR PLANET. !NO OVERPRODUCTION !
WE ALSO SELL ON MAGCLOUD THE DIGITAL EDITIONS OF OUR MAGAZINES.
ZILLIONAIRE
HILTON QUEENS
Vitality
Whitney JOHNS
AUTOSHOW
YANA WEIMAN
Jala Sue
WHITNEY JOHNS
Kari
allurring
Nataly Correa
EPITOME OF SENSUALITY
LUST AFFAIR
CENSORED
ASIA CEREOLA
HOME DECO
Guzman
LATINA
@LATINAMAGAZINE1
MAR SOLIS
A BEAUTIFUL "DIA DE LOS MUERTOS" LIVING DOLL
TOP CHEFS OF SAN FRANCISCO
A Dog's Purpose
DAN AND JORGE
Love Without Reservation
10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY
LEAGUE OF LEGENDS
GET IT ON Google Play
Download on the App Store
4:20 p. m.
Front Page ‹ PLP
PLPG GLOBAL M
PLPG Global Me
PasaLaPágina.c
magcloud.com/user/plpg-globalmedia
MagCloud
Hello, PLPG Globa...
My Projects
Help
Formats
Create
Sell
Shop
Search MagCloud
Like 9
Tweet
Edit Profile

PLPG Global Media, LLC - Publicomlatina Publishing Group s.a.s (PLPG-GLOBALMEDIA)

MEMBER SINCE
8/23/2017

WEB:
http://www.plpg.online

PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA - Publicom Latina Publishing Group s.a.s is a global company that produces some of the world's leading print, digital, video and social brands, renowned for producing the highest quality content for the world's most influential audiences.

PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA has expanded its catalog of publications offering different products for all kinds of audience. Today we have an offer of contents and products that are represented in 50 Magazines, 70+ print and digital brands, 200+ Countries and 35+ markets. through

interact with our audience.

All PLPG´s magazines are available in English, printed and digital, for purchase on de

delivery to any place in the world.

We are luxury experts, we are PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA - PUBLICOM LATINA PUBLISHING GR

Collection: Luxury Trending Magazine

LUXURY TRENDING MAGAZINE - FELICIA MERCADO - NOV 2022 - ...

Passions expressed in each issue capturing the essence of luxury life style. High-end lifestyle and entertainment magazine. Aimed at the...

Standard / 8.25" x 10.75"

Print + Digital: $53.79

Digital: $12.40

Passion capturing style. High entertainme the...

Standard /

Print +

Digital: $11.99

LUXURY TRENDING MAGAZINE - SVETLANA, The Colors of Succe...

Passions expressed in each issue capturing the essence of luxury life style. High-end lifestyle and entertainment magazine. Aimed at the...

Standard / 8.25" x 10.75"

Print + Digital: $58.39

Digital: $12.99

LUXURY TRENDING MAGAZINE - AUG 202 PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA

Passions expressed in each issu capturing the essence of luxury lif style. High-end lifestyle and entertainment magazine. Aimed at the...

Standard / 8.25" x 10.75"

Print + Digital: $55.19

Digital: $9.99

GOOD GIRL
BAD BOY
CAROLINA HERRERA
NEW YORK
FRAGRANCES
FOR HIM, FOR HER
GOOD TO BE BAD

Shop at omegawatches.com

OMEGA
Speedmaster
CO-AXIAL
MASTER CHRONOMETER
TACHYMÈTRE BASE 1000

SPEEDMASTER '57
Co-Axial Master Chronometer

A CLASSIC ICON RETURNS

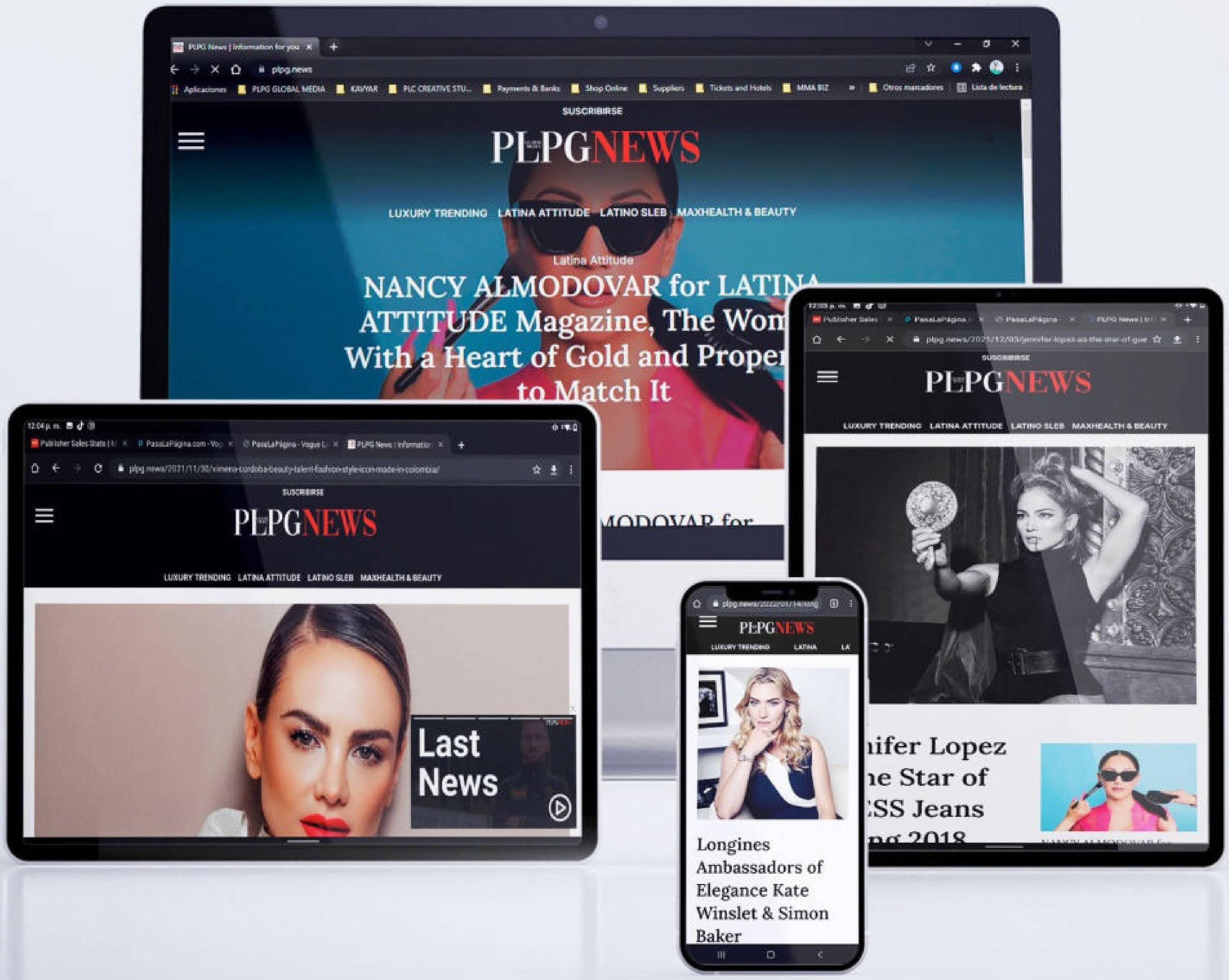
With its unique Broad Arrow hands and tachymeter scale on the bezel, the Speedmaster '57 is emblematic of the first, revolutionary Speedmaster that was launched in 1957. For the latest update, OMEGA has lifted the vintage spirit to another level, with slimmer styling, extraordinary colour, and a Co-Axial Master Chronometer engine that takes precision to the next gear. This enduring watch is a front seat companion for George Clooney, and represents the original, timeless look of the Speedmaster line.

Ω
OMEGA

PLPG NEWS

GET THE LATEST NEWS AND UPDATES FROM PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA

WWW.PLPG.NEWS


SUSCRIBIRSE
PLPGNEWS
LUXURY TRENDING
LATINA ATTITUDE
LATINO SLEB
MAXHEALTH & BEAUTY
Latina Attitude

NANCY ALMODOVAR for LATIN
ATTITUDE Magazine, The Wom
With a Heart of Gold and Proper
to Match It

Last News

nifer Lopez
he Star of
CSS Jeans

Longines Ambassadors of Elegance Kate Winslet & Simon Baker

PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA
PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC
PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHING GROUP S.A.S

WWW.PLPG.ONLINE @PLPGNEWS

WILD TURKEY®

TRUST YOUR SPIRIT

HERE'S TO SOME DAY DREAMING
AND EVEN MORE NIGHT DOING.
WILD TURKEY
101
BOURBON 101
No. 4 Char | Aged in American Oak | 100 year old recipe

NEVER COMPROMISE. DRINK RESPONSIBLY. WILD TURKEY® KENTUCKY STRAIGHT BOURBON WHISKEY, 50.5% ALC./VOL. (101 PROOF). DISTILLED AND BOTTLED BY WILD TURKEY DISTILLING CO., LAWRENCEBURG, KY. ©2022 CAMPARI AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY.

miumiu.com
miu miu

MARKO BELLO

@markobello_official

Art and paintings have been used for centuries to express creativity and emotion. From the earliest cave paintings to the works of the great masters, artists have been able to capture the essence of emotion and experience in their works. Paintings are a way for an artist to express their feelings and thoughts, and to create an image that speaks to the viewer.

Writer: **GERALDINE ZIALCITA** @geraldineauthor
Copy Editor: **KIEDO VILLANUEVA** @kei_villanueva
Art Director: **NIGEL JOHN DEL MUNDO** @nigeldelmundo
Photographer: **VINCENT GOTTI** @vinniegotti

BUSINESS
CONCEPT

Beyond the Surface

*by **Geraldine Zialcita***

Marko Bello aspired to become an artist, honing his skills with pencils and crayons through self-teaching. After graduating high school, Marko worked as a factory laborer at Ajinomoto, completing two 10-month contracts. He shifted to construction work, specifically creating signage and billboards, after tying the knot in 2007.

Marko finds inspiration in the ordinary aspects of daily life. He actively explores his environment, seeking out elements that can influence his artwork. His goal is to create paintings that resonate with others, establishing a meaningful connection with his audience.

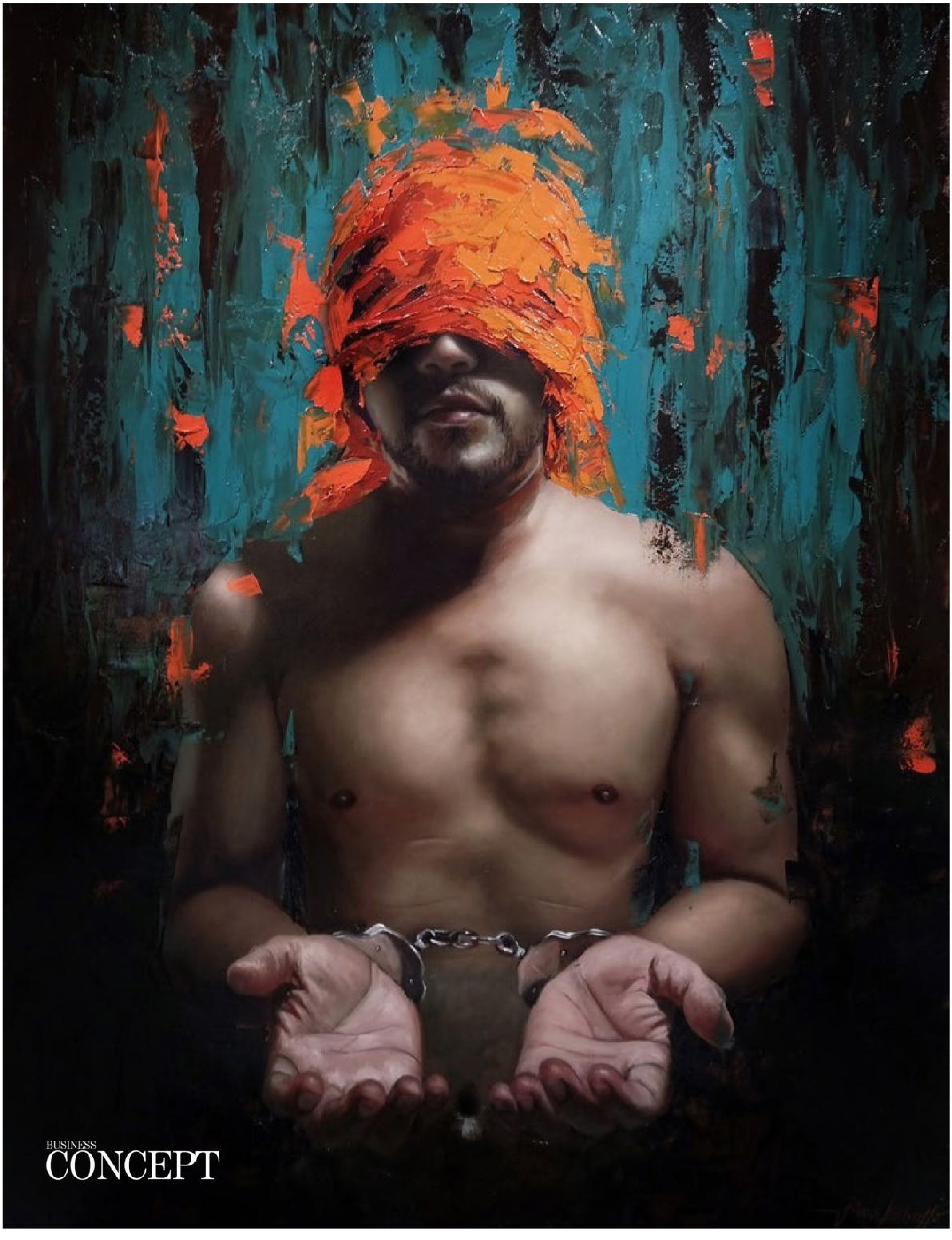
The life of an artist is a unique experience unlike any other. Marko had the opportunity to witness this firsthand when his uncle, an artist himself, visited and introduced him to his neighbor, a professional artist. Marko was inspired by this meeting which compelled him to create his own artwork and attempt to put it in a gallery. After months of hard work and dedication, Marko produced a painting that he was proud of. His efforts were rewarded when the gallery owner purchased the painting, confirming his success and inspiring his passion for art. “When I first witnessed my artwork on display at the Passion Arts Gallery in Megamall, it inspired me to create even more. I used to feel intimidated when visiting galleries, thinking that I wasn’t at the same level as the other artists. However, after the gallery purchased my work, my confidence grew, and I felt like I had found my true calling,” Marko shares.

During one of the viewings, Marko happened to chat with the art curator of Passion Arts Gallery who expressed her fondness for his painting. Little did she know that Marko was the artist behind the painting. Passion Arts Gallery purchased four more art pieces of Marko which spearheaded his career in the art industry. “People soon discovered me and artists invited me to do group shows,” he informs.

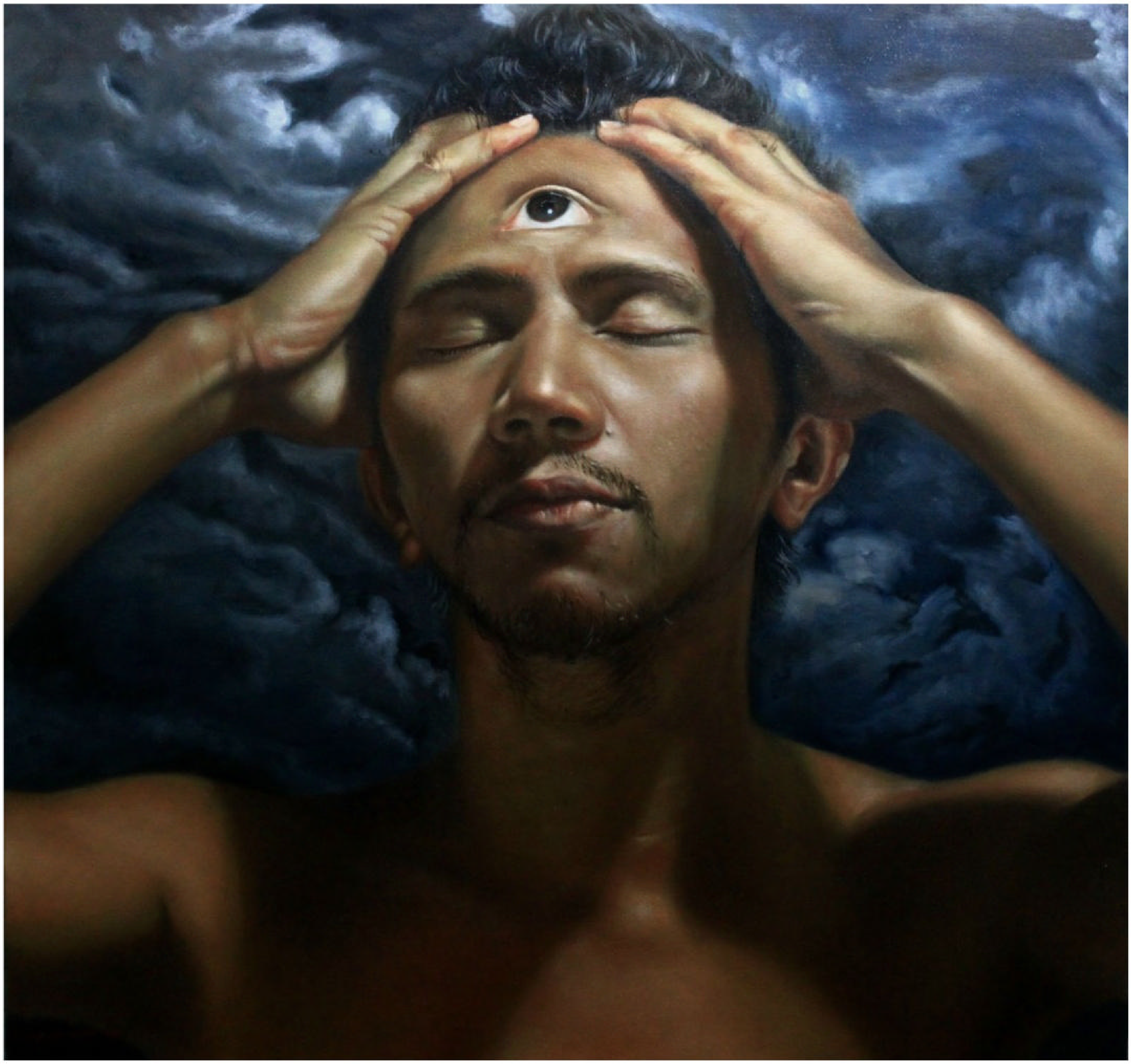
Marko juggled painting at night and working at a construction company during the day. By 2010, Marko had regular exhibitions, and by 2012 and 2013, he became a full-time artist. He paints at his studio at home and more art collectors have purchased his work. “I quit my construction job and have been concentrating on my artwork for the past decade now,” he states.

Marko’s art focuses on Realism, with mixed texture and fine details. His work stands out because of the skin tone of the figures that he paints. He splatters paint to create a refined, textured effect. The figures are based on photographs of people and animals. Marko also accepts commission work. “I mostly paint figures using oil on canvas, as I feel like I can best express my feelings and connect with people through this style. When I first started out, I was drawn to painting landscapes, but realized it wasn’t my cup of tea,” he relays.

ステイック
Tuned in Tokyo



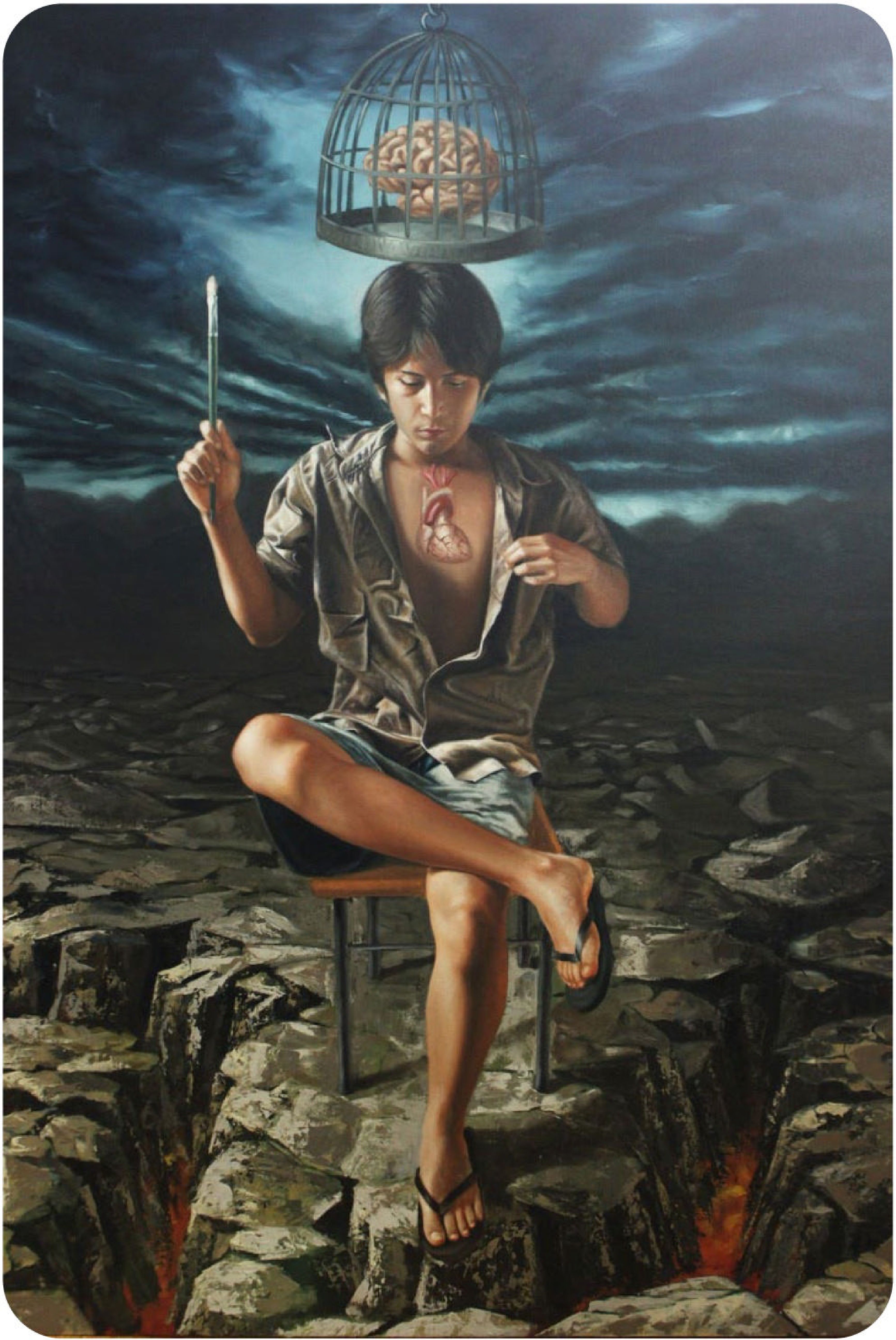
BUSINESS
CONCEPT



His focus on painting children stems from their innocent and pure souls, which are reflected in the images he produces. As a result of this passion, Marko has won several national art awards and has taken part in numerous group exhibitions. He also made it to finalist for the GSIS and Metrobank MADE art competitions.

Realism art resonates with Marko because it enables him to capture the world around him in a way that is truthful and authentic. For Marko, the process of creating realistic images involves a deep understanding of the subject matter, from its physical attributes to its emotional resonance. By using realism as his medium, Marko can communicate his message to the viewer in a powerful and direct way. Marko believes that through his art, he can reveal the beauty and complexity of the world and the people in it, and inspire others to see it in a new light. Overall, realism is Marko's chosen medium because it allows him to express his ideas and emotions in a way that is both accurate and impactful.

Marko describes the emotions he feels while painting and his creative process. "The time it takes to complete a painting varies depending on the size. A 3x4 painting takes me around three weeks. I feel happy and in love while painting. I paint for around eight hours a day with breaks. My creative process involves listening to music while painting. I choose music based on the mood I want to express in my work. If I want a more aggressive outcome for my work, then I'll listen to rock music. If I prefer to express my feelings and add more soul to the canvas, then I listen to sentimental music. Before starting to paint, I take a shower, eat, and clean my brushes. Then I study the colors I need to use and mix my palette before working on the canvas."



BUSINESS
CONCEPT

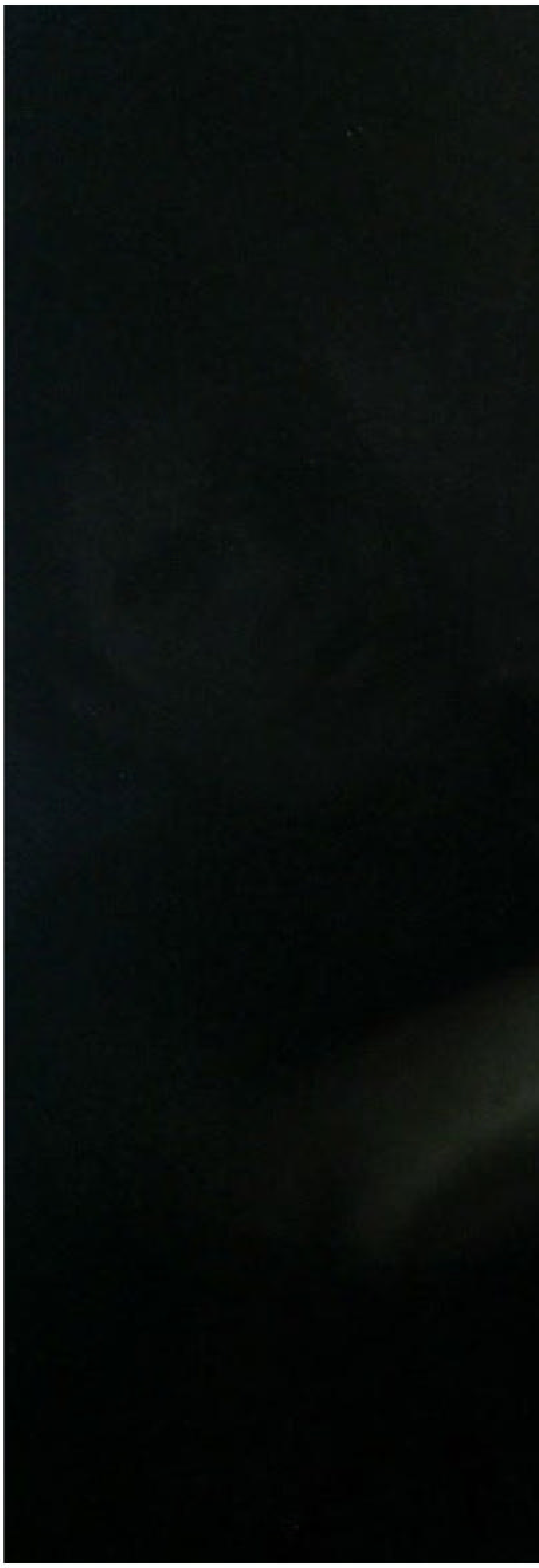
What Marko loves most about being an artist is expressing his feelings through his work. “When I see a painting that I’ve almost completed, I’m amazed that I’ve been able to bring my vision to life. Once a painting is finished and displayed on the wall, and after witnessing the appreciation from others, I am filled with immense joy.” He smiles.

After so many years as an artist, Marko discovered the power of self-confidence. “When I first started, I was incredibly shy and could barely face people. I was so scared of exhibiting my work that I could barely breathe when someone asked me about the meaning behind the painting. But as I kept creating, I slowly began to realize that I had something to say and felt more and more comfortable talking to people about my work. I learned to trust my own instincts and be proud of my own ideas. I learned that I could be a powerful force in the art world.” He beams with pride.

This creative gentleman is disciplined and committed to his craft and profession. He paints daily and completes a 3X4 painting in three weeks. He acknowledges that putting himself out there and expressing his creativity sums up a liberating experience. “I’ve found joy and peace in my own creative journey. I’ve realized that art is an ongoing process, and I’m constantly learning and growing as an artist,” he imparts.

Marko confirms that the life of an artist is not an easy one, but it can be incredibly rewarding. “It’s a journey of self-discovery, growth, and learning. Every day brings something new, and I’m constantly amazed at how far I’ve come. I’m thankful for the lessons I’ve learned and the confidence I’ve gained through my art,” he expresses.

This talented artist knows first-hand that the life of an artist involves dedication, commitment, and passion. From the moment he decided to pursue his artistic calling, he knew his will, capacity, and patience would be tested and challenged at every turn. However, despite the obstacles and difficulties that he faced, Marko never gave up. He remained determined, resilient, and focused on his ultimate goal. “During the early stages of my career, I encountered financial struggles and experienced constant rejections from galleries. I remember riding my bicycle to different galleries carrying a sample painting, only to be told they would call if they were interested, but they never did. Selling a painting felt like winning the lottery, and I had to keep pushing forward despite the challenges. I even left the house without eating, hoping to surprise my family with their favorite meals upon my return, but it rarely turned out that way,” he unveils.



As a starving artist, Marko faced numerous struggles in pursuit of his passion, contending with financial insecurity, uncertainty, and the pressures of constantly proving his worth. One tense moment was when his wife confronted him to choose between his career and their family. Marko weighed the costs and benefits of each option. On one hand, he knew that sacrificing his career would mean losing their sense of purpose and fulfillment. On the other hand, prioritizing his family could provide stability and security. Torn between his dreams and responsibilities to his family, led to feelings of guilt and uncertainty. Ultimately, Marko knew the decision required careful consideration and a willingness to accept the consequences, whatever it may be.

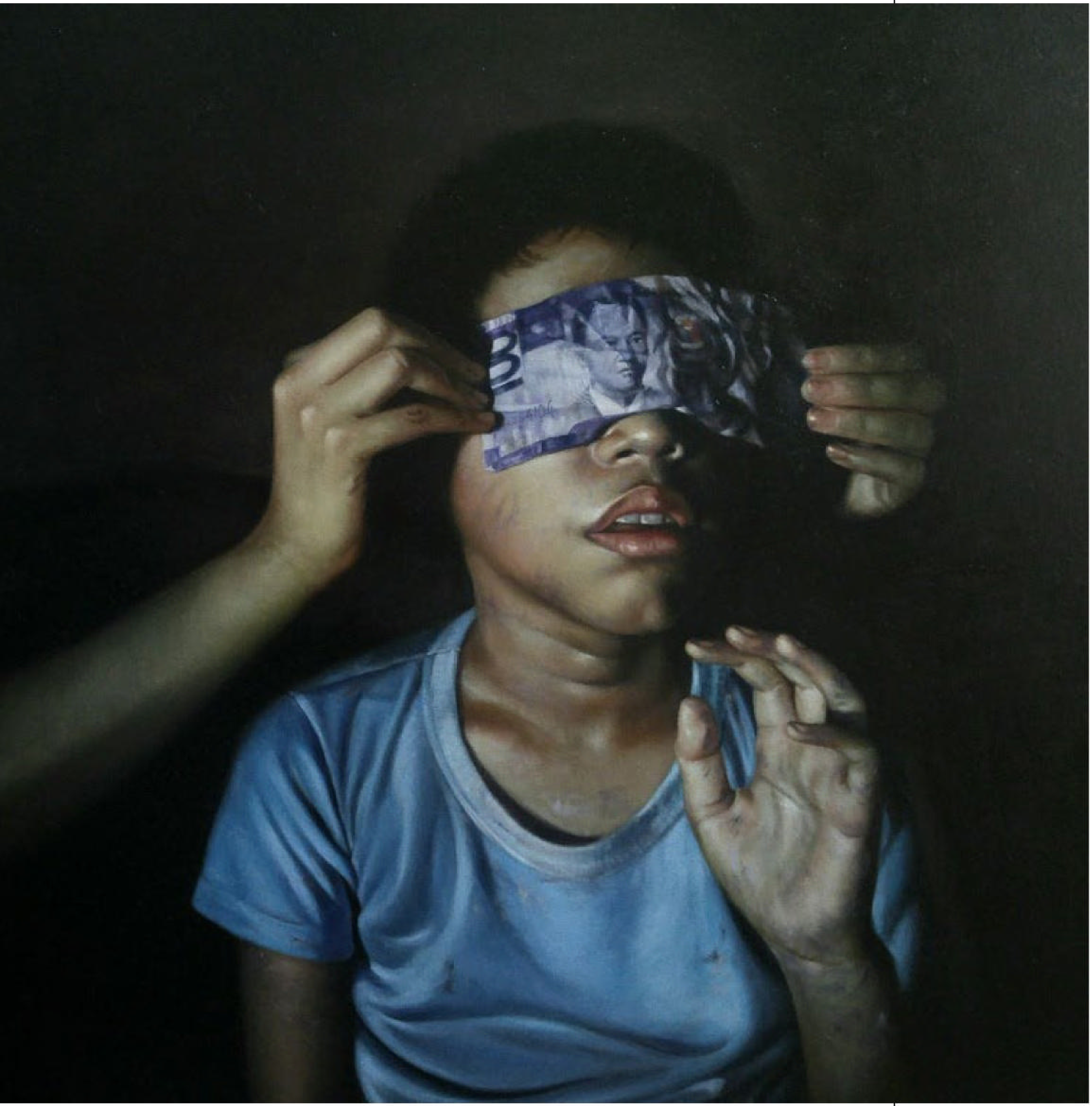
Marko’s hunger for success was greater than his disappointments, and he persisted in pushing the limits of his craft with the encouragement of art curators and friends. Despite the challenge of balancing his career and family, he worked tirelessly to prove that hard work and perseverance can make anything possible. Over time, word spread about Marko’s talent, and he no longer needed to aggressively promote his work like a salesperson, as art collectors began reaching out to him directly. Marko’s passion remained undiminished despite the rejections he faced, and he continued to create. Eventually, he achieved the success he had long strived for, making a living from his art.

When not painting, Marko keeps a work/life balance by spending time with his wife and three children ages 16, 14, and 6. He is excited to announce his 5th upcoming solo exhibit at Galerie Anna in Megamall in November.

Marko’s goal is to purchase his dream home so he could have substantial space for his studio and continue to produce beautiful artwork. He concludes this story with advice to aspiring artists. “Never give up on your passion. Keep pursuing your dreams and work hard to improve your skills.”

Marko’s experience is one shared by many artists. In order to create something truly unique and special, artists must dedicate time and effort to their craft and push the boundaries of their creativity. It can be a long and difficult process, but the rewards are worth the effort. With hard work and dedication, an artist can find joy and fulfillment in their work and even be rewarded with a sale or recognition. The life of an artist is one of adventure, creativity, and passion, and Marko’s story is just one example of the amazing things that can be achieved. He showed, no matter how difficult and challenging the journey may be, if we remain committed and refuse to give up, we can make our dreams a reality.

Through art, Marko Bello has captured all the details to depict what’s beyond the surface and define his true vision.



SKY ALTON

@sky_alton

CONQUERING THE JOURNEY OF SUCCESS

Success, though often defined as a destination point, should simply be perceived as a progression when one overcomes adversity to pursue a goal that many times feels unattainable at best. By definition, via Oxford Language or Merriam-Webster, success is the achievement or attainment of fame, wealth, or social status. However, that is typically not the case. Arguably, as Zig Ziglar said it best, "Success is not a destination, it's a journey." Some are just better at riding out the journey for the experience that it is rather than expecting the instant gratification that is rarely within reach, one of those successful self-made individuals is **Sky Alton**.

Writer: **JAX BUTTLE**
Copy Editor: **KIEDO VILLANUEVA** @kei_villanueva
Fashion Stylist: **SARAH GONZALEZ**
Art Director: **NIGEL JOHN DEL MUNDO** @nigeldelmundo
Photographer: **VINCENT GOTTI** @vinniegotti
Photographed at: **THE CITIZEN HOTEL** @thecitizenhotelsacramento

BUSINESS
CONCEPT

Hailing from West Oakland, California, Sky is an up-and-coming self-made entrepreneur who has never shied away from any hardship in his path, but rather saw it as an opportunity to hit the ground running in order to persevere and excel at any cost. While learning the ways of his surroundings and surviving by fitting in as best he could, he knew that he was meant for more; he knew he would never settle for less than the dreams he had, constantly parading through his mind. He always felt that something inside him was different and destined for greatness, and he would never give up until he satiated that voice that kept pushing him to not only thrive, but to excel.

As the world and society as we know it is finally able to delve into a newly defined sense of normalcy, we can all reflect on the newfound appreciation for independent business endeavors and the ability to rise from the ashes, so to speak. Sky saw this as a chance to create a positive shining light in the world of entertainment, which simultaneously brings attention to everyday people who are fighting through the struggles of life to accomplish their dreams and reach the goals they set for themselves, regardless of any adversity. In 2019, he created *Everyday Amazing with Sky Alton* with nothing more than an idea and a dream, and since then it has continued to flourish into a successful venture with nothing but growth on the horizon.

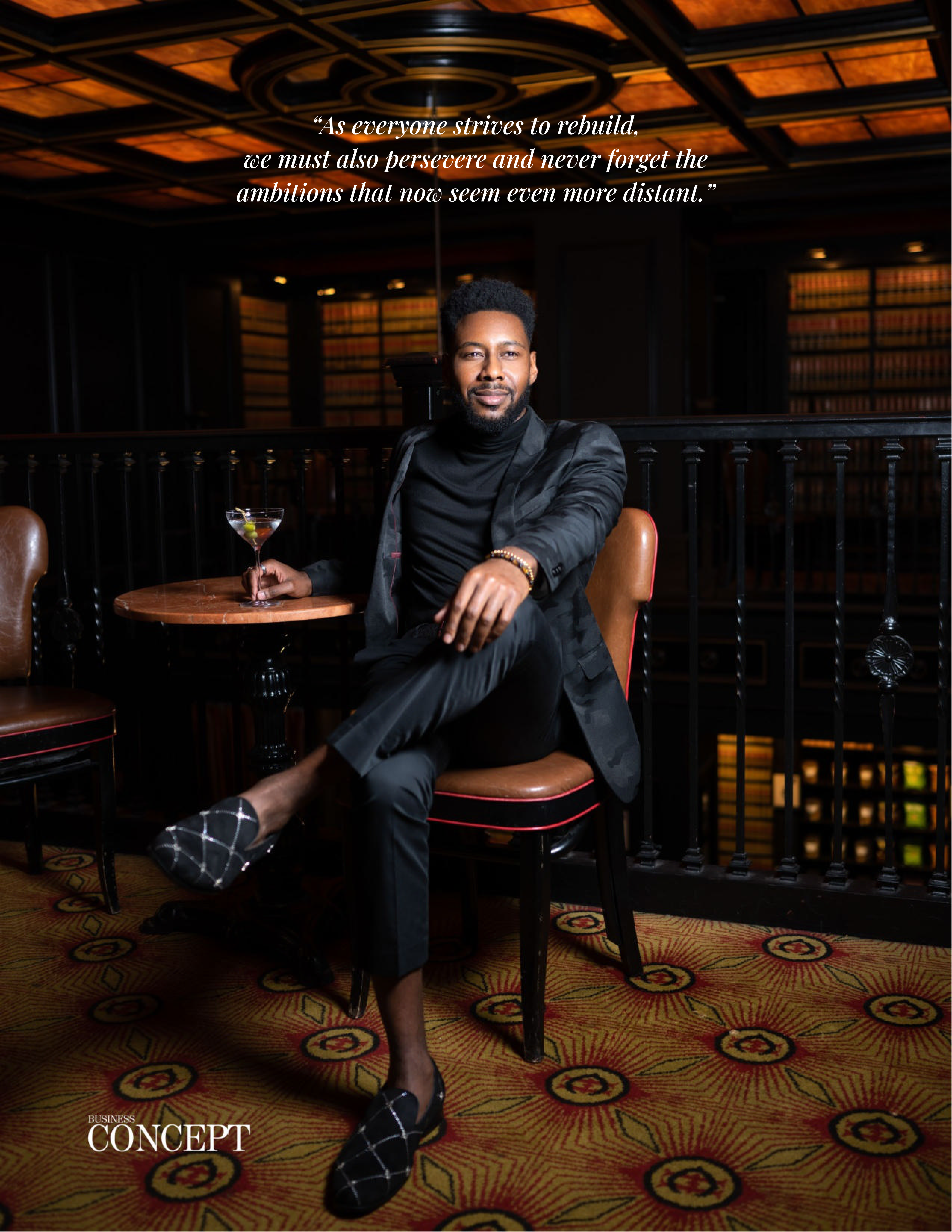
When considering the success of his talk-show, one must take a closer look at the measure that makes the man. As the great Martin Luther King Jr. said, "The true measure of a man is not how he behaves in moments of comfort and convenience, but how he stands at times of controversy and challenges." Growing up having to face constant struggles and trials, Sky always saw more for his future. After some unavoidable family conflicts, he and his mom decided it would be in his best interests to leave Oakland and finish his education in a more positive environment. At the formidable age of 14, he moved to Dixon, California with his grandmother to continue his high school education with less negative influences; in the end, she was his biggest proponents and most positive influences. Making that move was difficult but ended up being the most important shift in his reality. Along with his grandmother's constant unconditional support, he was able to thrive and expect more from life if he put in the work like she taught him.

After a few years, Sky and his grandmother moved to El Dorado Hills where he would graduate high school and begin his young adult life. Bright eyed at countless possibilities and on a cusp of a whole new prospect on life, he decided to continue his progression at full force. He enrolled in Folsom Lake College, initially in pursuit of a business degree; however, as most young adults react at the precipice of figuring out their college educational journeys, he quickly decided that venture was not for him. This realization propelled him into the next stage of his voyage in life, where he embarked on his Theater Arts Degree, finding his love for being in the limelight. While striving to achieve this portion of his path to success, he saw a void where he never felt quite fulfilled. Then one fateful afternoon he met someone who provided him the wake up call he needed to shift his energy.

Though not a relevant individual in Sky's life in the long run, the advice from this stranger proved to be a quintessential turning point for not only his palpable acquisitions, but also for his entire outlook on what could be. This stranger shed light on the reality of success stories, or lack thereof, from those in conquest of a Theater Arts Degree, which in-turn made him re-evaluate his direction for success. "Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice, and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do." – Pele. Through this epiphany, Sky changed directions in his life towards a degree in Communication in an effort to use the skills he had already been fostering inadvertently into something he could transform into a successful lifelong accomplishment.

While shifting gears towards this new major, Sky decided to further strengthen his pursuits on the side by taking up internships within his field, the first of which being at Entercom Communications (94.7) to learn the ropes. Once he familiarized himself with the tricks of the trade, he soon after was hired on as a promotional rep and as part of the street team, doing voice work on the side. Over time, he began to feel stagnant and moved on to Entravision (103.5/101.9) where he hoped to receive an opportunity for any airtime to further progress his status in the world of communications. Realizing that might not happen, he decided to leave and expand his wheelhouse, never wanting to be dormant nor complacent in the success he felt in the limited position he had gained. So, with a heavy heart and some trepidation, he left to follow his heart towards bigger and better things.

BUSINESS
CONCEPT



“As everyone strives to rebuild,
we must also persevere and never forget the
ambitions that now seem even more distant.”

BUSINESS
CONCEPT

While continuing on in his search for elevation to the next level, Sky received yet another tidbit of life changing advice, this time in the form of someone he was interviewing with. This individual gave him a dose of reality he needed to hear and had not yet considered fully, that he needed to leave radio and focus on integrating his skills into television. This further confirmed the support and recommendations he had received from his friends and family, given his penchant for the spotlight and personable presence on screen. Though it was clearly a natural fit, he did not want to place all his energy into a role he felt was too easy, looking good on screen. He continued with his education at California State University, Sacramento, until he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Communication in 2021. With that confirmation in tow, Sky was excited to go forth and make his mark. This new milestone also brought up some anxiety of how to break into the industry he worked so hard to understand.

In the quest to accomplish his goal of succeeding in the tumultuous and fiercely competitive field of broadcast television, Sky shifted gears to focus all his attention and efforts into not only breaching those walls but breaking them down. Realizing the reality of the struggle in store only made him fortify these insecurities and double down to jump blindly into this new endeavor, looking for growth opportunities wherever they presented themselves. The first option he took advantage of was an internship at Access Sacramento, a local T.V. station. He was soon after hired on as a production assistant which is where he learned extensive camera work, behind the scenes functions of television, computer graphics, playback (commercial production), and technical direction.

This platform opened doors to other prospects, which included acting as a technical director on the show the LiveWire, an affiliate of Access Sacramento. Although it was an educational experience, it further propelled his desire to start his own show where his voice could be heard within his own vision for what he thought the world needed to hear. While feeling this guttural calling almost audible from its intensity, Sky felt the validation from his biggest supporter in life, his grandmother. Even after struggling through the loss of his number one fan, her words still resonate as a proponent for success and voice of reason in the times of tribulation. In an effort to prove to himself and make his late grandmother proud, he persevered to master a field he initially knew nothing about and accept nothing but success in what he set his mind to.

Though not at the pinnacle of success which he aspires to yet, Sky is definitely making a name for himself. The most commendable attribute of his efforts is the fact that regardless of any hinderance, he is able to do anything necessary to figure out a solution and work passed it to come out on top. As he follows in the footsteps of those he admires like Ellen DeGeneres, appreciating the styles of late-night talk show greats like Arsenio Hall and Jimmy Fallon, he is quickly on the rise and not allowing any adversity to hinder his progress. In business and in life, it's not about the hinderances we are forced to confront, but rather the way in which we handle the problem and resolve it. Sky promised himself early on in life that he would never allow himself to fail, and given his obstacles growing up, he knew he would do everything in his power to excel far beyond that which he knew.

With this inspiration in mind, Sky's main focus as he developed his talk show was to highlight the success of other likeminded individuals who came from nothing but never gave up the dream to be something more. The talk show, *Everyday Amazing with Sky Alton*, had a great first season, but developed further into the second season as the following as well as Sky's vision progressed. His vision was to showcase interesting people who might have not yet ascertained all the followers and fame, but never let their adversity deter them from the direction of their life's ambitions. Similar to him, the guests on his show set their goals beyond the means they were presented with in life, and worked hard to gain a success that cannot be defined monetarily, but by the fact that their voice is heard and their presence is felt. This is the type of inspiration and motivation that the world honestly needs to take hold of after surviving such a tumultuous period in history.

As everyone strives to rebuild, we must also persevere and never forget the ambitions that now seem even more distant. The fact is, success is attainable with the utmost level of perseverance and determination. This is what makes the rare individuals who succeed at making their mark in the world shine like a glowing light in the darkest of nights.

Sky Alton is a powerhouse to be recognized and watched because his tenacity has shown that he doesn't aim to break the glass ceiling; he refuses to settle until he shatters it. In a world filled with uncertainty and negativity, everyone can use a little glimmering light of hope; a hope for amazement and an unadulterated platform where people can showcase their positivity and live every day amazing. Hailing from humble means can break some, but has only served to make him stronger and work harder, which is a page all should take from his book. The true definition of success is never accepting failure as a weakness, but the persistence to keep trying and using each hurdle to strengthen you along the way.

GUCCI

LE

THE

VERAGE

CHRIS NGO

@chris_theleverage

& LEE RAMIREZ

@lee_leverage

Chris Ngo and **Lee Ramirez** traversed the lower income tax bracket by becoming experts in the menswear fashion industry and creating their own wholesale agency, The Leverage. Ngo reveals the root of his expertise: much of his childhood was spent running around a sweatshop.

Writer: **BAILEY LATRONICA** @baayfree
Creative Director: **ROSALINA TRAN LYDSTER** @rosalinatranlydster
Copy Editor: **KIEDO VILLANUEVA** @kei_villanueva
Art Director: **NIGEL JOHN DEL MUNDO** @nigeldelmundo
Photographer: **VINCENT GOTTI** @vinniegotti

THE
LEVERAGE
RESERVED
PARKING FOR
The Leverage

From Sweatshop to Success

by ***Bailey Latronica***

Metal racks, seemingly unmovable from supporting a plethora of men's streetwear clothes, are scattered around the massive, high ceiling warehouse. One rack is near the indoor basketball court and gym, one by the in-house photography studio, and another is pushed against the desk of a fashion designer scrawling on a tablet. And in the farthest corner of this 17,000 square feet warehouse is the motherlode: the Leverage's showroom storage. Home to brands like Embellish, Crysp Denim, and Lifted Anchors, the Leverage's showroom is a dreamland for lovers of men's contemporary fashion.

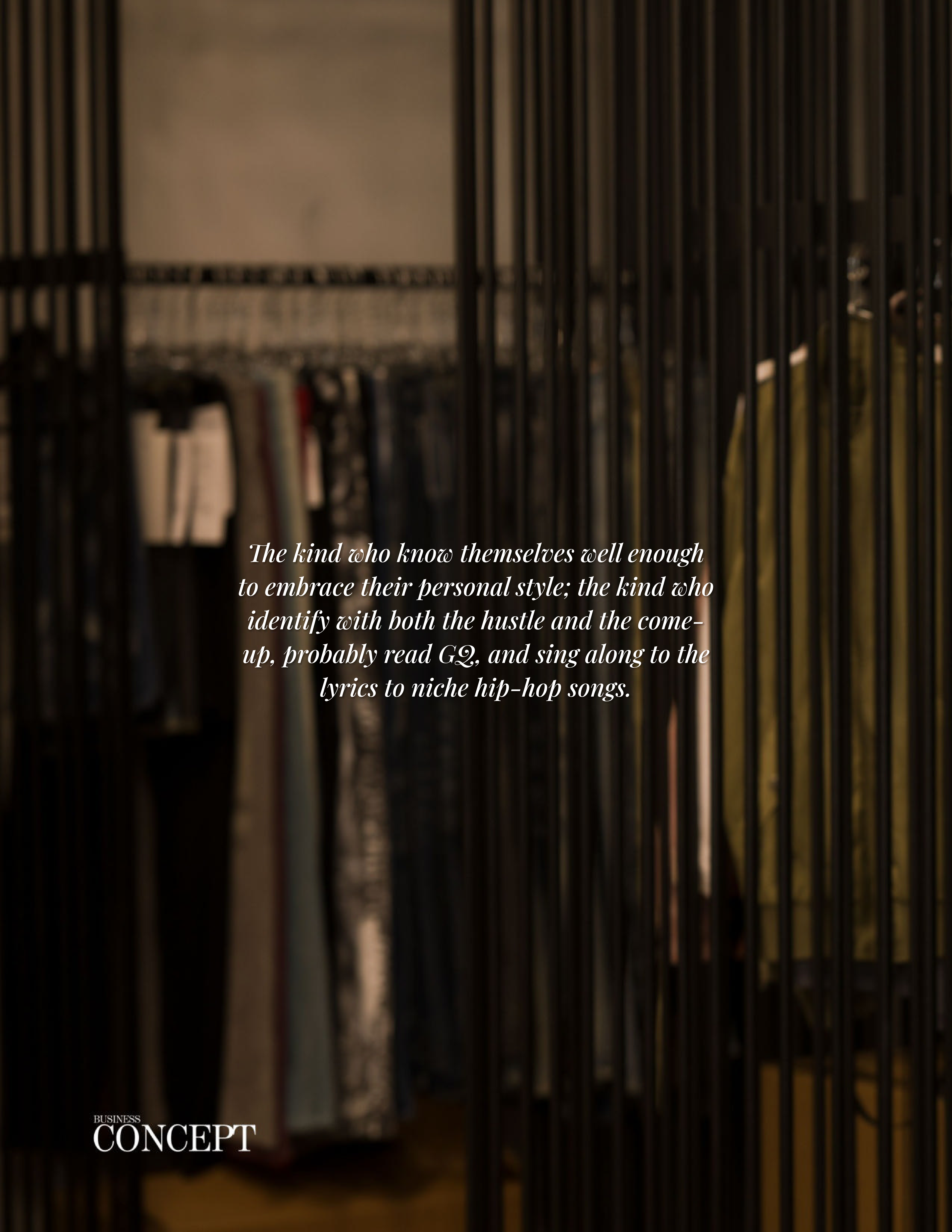
These are clothes that cool men wear, the kind who know themselves well enough to embrace their personal style; the kind who identify with both the hustle and the come-up, probably read GQ, and sing along to the lyrics to niche hip-hop songs.

Cool men—a lot like **Lee Ramirez** and **Chris Ngo**, founders and owners of The Leverage, an e-commerce and wholesale men's streetwear clothing agency headquartered in Santa Ana, California.

Emanating from Ramirez and Ngo is an aura of success. Not the big shot, egocentric kind of success but a comfortable success. The kind you have to grow into. Both men are dressed casually. Ngo is wearing all black workout attire, ready to exercise in between meetings, and is speaking animatedly. He's hyped to share his story with Business Concept and show me the ins and outs of The Leverage warehouse. Ramirez, who's a bit more quiet and reserved, sports a gray zip up sweater and denim jeans. After a firm handshake, Ramirez makes a quick exit. As cofounder for The Leverage, he trusts his business partner, Ngo, to speak on behalf of their agency. It's undeniably evident their business partnership is a strong one.

Ngo darts off, beckoning me to join him on a tour through the warehouse, which seems like a labyrinth to me.

"I came here to the United States as a refugee in 1983," began Ngo as we strolled through rows of boxes stacked on industrial shelves, easily 10 feet tall, brimming with clothing. "My mom worked at a sweatshop out in, like, Westminster, making garments and stuff. I still remember being at the age of four, five, and six years old, always being out there, just hanging out at the sweatshops and just running around, messing around. I would always see everything she was doing out there, which was just being part of the assembly line... Little did I know that I would end up being in the fashion industry myself."



The kind who know themselves well enough to embrace their personal style; the kind who identify with both the hustle and the come-up, probably read GQ, and sing along to the lyrics to niche hip-hop songs.

Ngo's mom, a Vietnamese refugee like her son, was an assembly line worker in a California sweatshop in the 1980s. She worked multiple jobs, was receiving welfare, and doing her best for her family. At the sweatshop she was being paid under the table and earning barely 10-20 cents for each finished garment. Her young son, Chris, spent many of his childhood years at her workplace, unknowingly becoming an expert on the behind-the-scenes of the fashion industry.

Ngo continued with his story. "Later on, I want to say I was like seven or eight years old, the sweatshop owners would let me go on trips to drop off some of their stuff on Santee street, which was cool. The way their business model worked was that they would actually pick up all the patterns as pieces and then bring them back to Westminster to sew it. After my mom's done, then there's people that are bagging and tagging the clothes, there are people that iron all the clothes, and once it's completely done it goes to the stores… And I realized like, man, my mom was only a small part of something that's huge. Then in the summer of my middle school year, I hung out with the kids of the person that owned the factories. She invited me over to their house, a huge house in Fountain Valley, cool Mercedes and everything too. Something clicked. I was like, 'wow, that's who's making the money…'"

CAPACITY: 1 PERSON

"The biggest thing is I have people for everything. Because our operation is so big, there's somebody that's the head of everything."

LEVERAGE
THE
LEVERAGE

BUSINESS
CONCEPT

We step inside Ngo's office. Whiffs of cologne and new sneakers greet us upon arrival. A framed pair of denim biker jeans hang above Ngo's adjustable desk; they are the first garment ever sold by The Leverage, Ngo tells me. He's so amped by the memory that the words practically sprint out of his mouth.

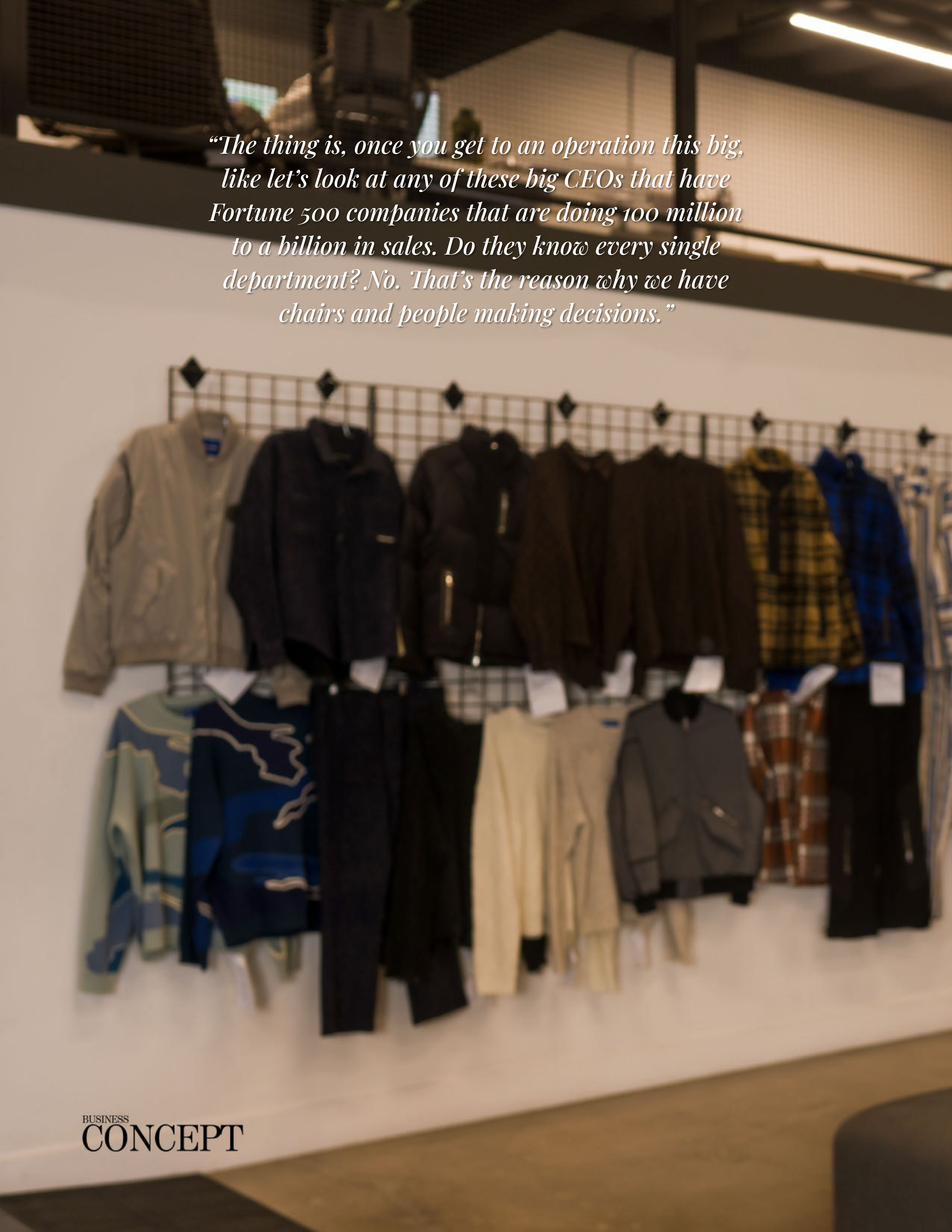
In this office, in this entire warehouse, there's an undeniable feeling of wealth. Similar to the aura of success around Ngo, this feeling of wealth doesn't scream at or try to overpower you. This isn't the flashy kind of wealth that's usually a facade for some shortcoming. This is the kind of wealth a refugee child running around a sweatshop could have never dreamed of achieving, but now he has and it's part of who he is.

Still speaking with a vigor in his voice, Chris shared how he awakened to knowing fashion was the right industry for him. "After college the boyfriend of one of my buddies owned a clothing brand and says 'Hey, you know clothes. Come help me with this trade show.' And I thought 'I'm unemployed right now, I'm 22 years old, why not?' So I go out there and I do what I do which is pretty much understand the clothes and just talk. Keep in mind even before that, I've been collecting sneakers and I know the fashion industry in terms of knowing the whole thing that my mom has produced. So, you know, I'm talking to this dude outside of the trade show, talking about sneakers. We were vibing about a pair of Tiffany dunks. Later he comes to the booth and is like 'Oh, this is your booth? I'll take everything. Give me a 5-10-10-5 across the board.' I tell my buddy like 'What's a 5-10-10-5?!' And it's like bullet size scale. So 5 smalls, 10 mediums, 10 larges, 5 extra larges. For every single piece. So I wrote my first order of all time for $15,000."

THINKING OF YOU
BABY
WORK IN PROGRESS THE CARHARTT WIP ARCHIVES
GISELE
UNO
THE DENIM MANUAL
BASQUIAT
DOMINO
HUMAN RESOURCE HUMAN RESOURCE
next look
SHADES

“I’ve worked at places where I clocked in and clocked out, and hated every morning, looking in the mirror like ‘I’ve gotta be here forever…’ ”

BUSINESS
CONCEPT



“The thing is, once you get to an operation this big, like let’s look at any of these big CEOs that have Fortune 500 companies that are doing 100 million to a billion in sales. Do they know every single department? No. That’s the reason why we have chairs and people making decisions.”

Comfortable success, the kind that can only be achieved by growing into it, radiates throughout The Leverage warehouse.

Affirmed in his knowledge of both fashion and sales, Ngo finally understood that he needed to commit to the fashion industry. He spent the rest of his 20s working for various fashion brands until ultimately solidifying himself into the men's streetwear niche, which suits him and his style impeccably. It was during this time period Ngo met his then coworker, Lee Ramirez. At the time neither of them knew they would eventually become business partners and finally transform their wildest dreams, the ones they once didn't know were even possible, into their everyday realities.

"Lee and I have very, very similar stories. He's from Santa Ana, I'm from Santa Ana," shared Ngo. "He had this crazy story as well, pretty much delivering dry cleaning in the morning and just making this happen so he can be in fashion. Both our parents are, like, lower income as well. He's great at selling and has a lot of relationships with boutique accounts. As coworkers, we booked a bunch of orders, it was our best booking season of all time, but the brand didn't have enough money to produce everything. And so I and Chris were like 'Yo, we can't continue doing this…' Our experience, our network was too valuable for us to stick around for a brand that wasn't taking it seriously. Me and him left and took my assistant, who's my CFO now, and we were just like 'Yeah, we're out!' But the crazy thing was, our first month in business together, we made more money in commissions than we did all of last year's selling. We were on to something."

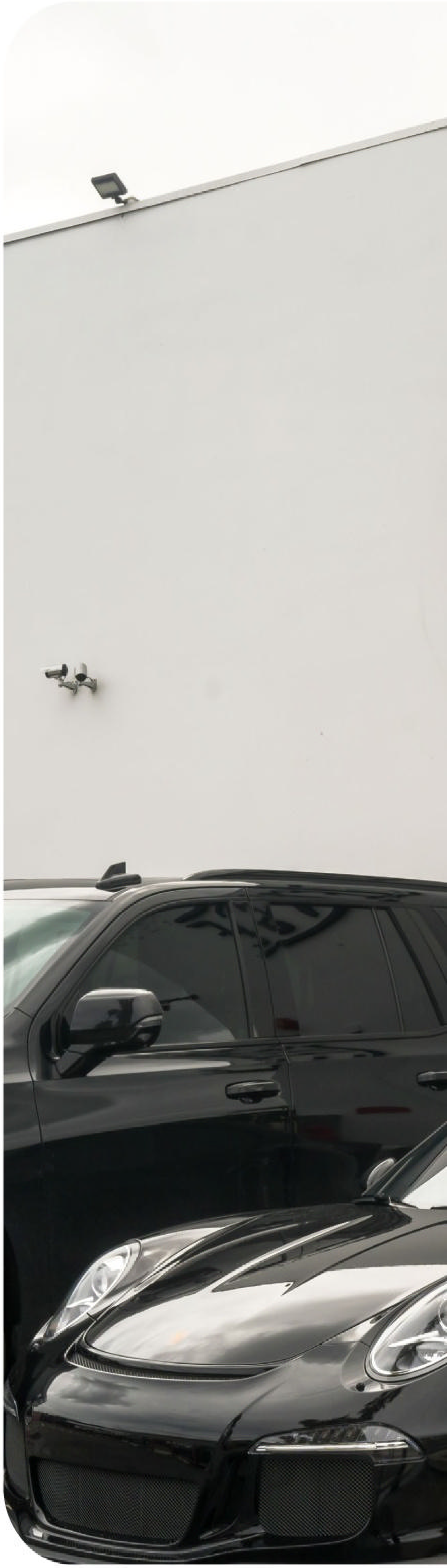
The Leverage was established in 2012 as a boutique men's streetwear agency and has grown into a beast of a business with wholesale and direct-to-consumer sales, in-house fashion design, distribution, in-house media production, and eight unique portfolio brands including Embellish, Haus of Jr, Crysp Denim, Diet Starts Monday, Not Really Hiring, Lifted Anchors, and Richie Le Collection. This refugee-owned agency was even featured in Forbes for its goal of becoming the next global conglomerate in menswear.

When it comes to running a business of this scale, Ngo believes delegating tasks is imperative for success. “The biggest thing is I have people for everything. Because our operation is so big, there’s somebody that’s the head of everything. I have a sales manager that makes sure all the collections are put together, right? Then there’s Derek, my CFO who handles all the finances. Then there’s Sean who handles all operations and logistics, and everything. I don’t have to manage any of that. The thing is, once you get to an operation this big, like let’s look at any of these big CEOs that have Fortune 500 companies that are doing 100 million to a billion in sales. Do they know every single department? No. That’s the reason why we have chairs and people making decisions.”

And when it comes to hourly staff, Ngo understands firsthand how important it is to create a work environment people can enjoy. “I’ve worked at places where I clocked in and clocked out, and hated every morning, looking in the mirror like ‘I’ve gotta be here forever…’ So if you look at the office how I run it, that’s the reason why it looks the way it does. Walking around, just chilling, warehouse guys listening to music blaring. Guys on the phone or shooting baskets with somebody working out. I’m not flipping in on them like ‘What are you doing?!’ It’s comfortable.”

Comfortable success, the kind that can only be achieved by growing into it, radiates throughout The Leverage warehouse. It dances in the air and whirls around the warehouse staff packing boxes and blaring music just as Ngo described. It circles the fashion designer, who’s still scrawling on the tablet, and offers insight about next seasons’ garments. And when it comes to Ngo and Lee, this energy of success is magnetized to them, revolving the same way a moon rotates around its planet.

Ngo and Lee are two men who traversed the lower income and grew into their success by transforming their experiences from early life into entrepreneurial expertise. These two have hustled so hard; they know what it’s like to both struggle, to get by, and to enjoy the fulfillment of their dreams. While they’ve already achieved a business partnership rooted in trust, invaluable career experiences, and a wholesale agency noticed by Forbes, the next level of The Leverage’s success isn’t to be speculated. It’s guaranteed.



THE
LEVERAGE
RESERVED PARKING FOR
The Leverage
2533 S. Main Street
UNAUTHORIZED VEHICLES TOWED AT OWNERS EXPENSE

BARBARA LEE
San Francisco

www.barbaralee.co

SAN FRANCISCO PLASTIC SURGERY
Karen M. Horton, MD
Emily Sespaniak, NP

DR. KAREN HORTON, SAN FRANCISCO PLASTIC SURGEON

WARM, WELCOMING AND STATE-OF-THE-ART OUTPATIENT PLASTIC SURGERY CENTER IN PACIFIC HEIGHTS

To look good is to feel great! Dr. Karen Horton is proud to announce the recent opening of her new state-of-the-art AAAASF accredited Plastic Surgery Center in San Francisco. “I am thrilled about our beautiful brand-new office and operating room. It’s so light, bright, modern, professional, and features the most advanced medical equipment,” says Dr. Horton. Safety and the highest quality services are paramount to Dr. Horton’s practice, and this new space allows her team to offer care at a premier level.

It’s located in Suite 520 of the Pacific Professional building in Pacific Heights. With convenient parking and access from anywhere in the Bay Area, it’s easy to get the results you want, from a woman surgeon who understands your wants and needs.

Integrity, aesthetic artistry and commitment to patients have made Dr. Horton one of the Bay Area’s most sought-after Plastic Surgeons. She specializes in natural looking cosmetic and reconstructive surgery for women and men with lasting results.

Each outpatient procedure is planned and executed with meticulous attention to detail by her experienced operating room team. A Plastic Surgery patient herself, Dr. Horton is uniquely equipped to counsel and advise on the latest in treatments. “My role as a Plastic Surgeon is to educate, inform, and empower women,” says Dr. Horton. She shares her own experiences within her website blog series, where clients can also learn about the latest developments in various restorative and reconstruction treatments.

Follow Dr. Horton on Instagram
@drkarenhorton

Contact her at
drkarenhorton.com
or ***415-923-3067***

PAUL HENDERSON

@pauldavid777

As a speaker, writer, and legal and political analyst, **Paul David Henderson** wears multiple hats, but integrates everything with wisdom, purpose, and impact.

Writer: **GERALDINE ZIALCITA** @geraldineauthor
Copy Editor: **KIEDO VILLANUEVA** @kei_villanueva
Art Director: **NIGEL JOHN DEL MUNDO** @nigeldelmundo
Photographer: **VINCENT GOTTI** @vinniegotti

A True Force for Change

*by **Geraldine Zialcita***

Paul is a fourth-generation San Franciscan who grew up in the culturally rich Bay View area. As a child, Paul was focused on understanding and uplifting his community of color, which included the adjacent local housing projects—his neighborhood was deeply impacted with redistricting, red lighting, and redevelopment impacts areas. “While growing up, I often felt that things happened to my community rather than for it. I always wondered why our neighborhood lacked basic necessities like efficient bus services, necessary stores, and convenient restaurants,” he shares.

As he grew older, Paul’s passion for education and libraries drew him to learn more about the world and his community’s unique challenges. He wanted to understand why his neighborhood was different and what he could do to impact it for the better. His mother worked as a public defender in San Francisco and later became involved with the Housing Authority, while his grandmother was a civil rights investigator. “Our constant conversations about race and integrity shaped my worldview and career choices,” he reveals.

Given Paul’s upbringing and interest in social justice from a young age, it was no surprise that he enrolled in law school after college. Paul earned a BA from UCLA and a JD from Tulane University where he was elected president of his class. “Law school was truly an awakening for me. I learned how laws are interpreted and how they can be weaponized against disenfranchised communities. I knew that I had a moral obligation to be an effective vessel for change. It was apparent that local, state, and federal rules and regulations needed to be challenged and improved to help the communities I cared about,” he states.

To that end, Paul was inspired to pursue a career in public service and criminal justice. As he was learning about the law, Paul realized he could not simply sit back and observe the injustices that were happening around him. He knew he had to lean in and be an active participant in challenging the status quo to create a more fair and just society.

Paul’s unique background and experiences have given him a different perspective on how decisions are made, often subjectively, and how the same rules can be interpreted differently based on race and gender. His desire to address equity in the criminal justice system and public service has fueled his passion for making a difference in these areas. Paul believes that everyone should have equal access to justice, and he has been passionate about this cause for decades.

For the past seven years, Paul has been the Executive Director of the Department of Police Accountability (DPA) in San Francisco. In this role, he works with both community advocates and law enforcement, working towards police reform and accountability, which he believes are both essential. “One of the challenges of this work was that it often felt aspirational rather than institutional. When I started working in the criminal justice arena, there was an absence of meaningful state or federal uniform best practice standards around policing. Then, President Obama convened the Task Force on 21st Century Policing. I worked on weaving these important federal reforms into a tangible local policing model which was crucial for law enforcement agencies to integrate new policing tenets and do better for the communities they serve,” he relays.

BLACK
LIVES
MATTER
HYPE

“Providing guidance and sharing good ideas can encourage participation.”

Before his current role as DPA director, for seven years Paul served as the Deputy Chief of Staff and Public Safety Director for Edwin M. Lee, the former Mayor of San Francisco. In this position, he played a key role in advising the Mayor on various issues related to the city's criminal justice system. Paul was also responsible for the formulation, execution, and administration of strategic criminal justice policies.

Without question, Paul has worked tirelessly to implement and advance police reforms in San Francisco. Under his leadership, the DPA has become known as one of the best civilian oversight and police policy think tanks in the country. Under Paul's leadership, the DPA has won national awards, including the Knighten Award, for its oversight and auditing practices. "One of the biggest obstacles to reforming policing is the lack of accountability and transparency. You can't fix what you don't talk about, and you can't talk about things that you don't know. To help rectify this problem, my team and I developed an evidence-based approach to auditing and reporting on complex issues generally only known to police insiders such as how officers use force. Only when we shine a light on problematic police practices through our audits and other tools, can we begin to understand what is happening and convene a hive mind with the community and law enforcement, and have a conversation on how we can do better." Paul went on to explain how equity plays a role as a police reform advocate and policy expert. "In my work, it is important that I intentionally capture the experiences of women, people of color, LGBTQ, and people with disabilities. By intentionally including these perspectives, we can create groundbreaking and noteworthy reforms that could be replicated in other communities to achieve positive outcomes for those most impacted by the police." He beams with pride.

Paul has also strived to develop and execute innovative programs to address criminal justice issues in San Francisco, including in his former role as Kamala Harris' Chief of Administration for eight years when she was SF District Attorney. During that time, Paul increased the agency's prosecution diversity by 85% and implemented smart, progressive policies that achieved both justice and safety for SF. Paul also believes that making a difference for communities in SF can also impact other countries and states because SF can exist as a role model for other municipalities.

Paul is most proud of the things he has accomplished that have moved the needle and made the system more equitable. "I believe that every community should be educating themselves about local legislation and advocating for reform, as needed. I encourage people to raise community, policing, and legal issues with their mayors, chiefs of police, and community leaders. I want to emphasize the importance of data collection which can be used to prove the need for reforms and ensure that policies are updated, such as for the use of force. Communities are better off with reform, and I am part of the movement to make that happen," he says with conviction.

As a lawyer, Paul has always been attracted to emerging legal issues in society. He believes that his skills help him to take complex ideas and make them understandable to the public. Paul is passionate about providing solutions to complex public service issues through law enforcement. "I believe that the key to solving these issues is through data collection, analysis, dissemination, and training. I'm motivated by the desire to be a catalyst for change and to empower people to become their own best advocates. People need to take an active role in addressing complex criminal justice public policy issues," he conveys.

Paul believes that there are three major setbacks facing the criminal justice system in America today. "The first one is the lack of political will. We need to advocate and let officials know what we hear about and know to be true. We can't assume that they are aware of the issues as we see them. We need to vote for people that reflect the values of reform. Many people talk about social problems but don't take action. We need our voices to be heard and represented. The second setback to criminal justice reform is structural barriers. We have systems that are institutionalized, and they have to be re-interpreted to be reformed. We have historical preferences that are incorrect. The third is inadequate data. Without data, it's hard to confirm evidence-based solutions, and we're not studying the problem. My work opens the door for communities to join the work and move forward. Opening the door is important," he defines.

As a public servant, Paul has developed strategies to establish effective partnerships and collaborations with community organizations, law enforcement agencies, and other stakeholders. "To build effective partnerships and collaborations, I prioritize clear and visible strategies that promote reform and accountability. Specifically, in my work within law enforcement, I focus on distinguishing between individual misconduct and systemic issues that require policy reform to ensure accountability. By challenging practices that have been ineffective, we make meaningful progress toward more transparent and accountable policing. Additionally, I strive to create opportunities for community input and participation to ensure that all stakeholders are represented and have a voice in the process," he describes.

While emphasizing the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the criminal justice system, Paul has established ways to advance these values in his career. "It's crucial to have a diverse range of perspectives at the table when making decisions in the criminal justice system. Without this diversity, there can be cognitive dissonance and a lack of understanding of the experiences and needs of different communities. Unfortunately, there is still a great deal of disparity in representation for women, LGBT individuals, and people of color in the criminal justice system, and this can lead to a lack of equity, diversity, and inclusion. I have been advocating for more representation at the table. When I first started in my office, I was the first African American my Department had hired in five years. By bringing in a diverse range of perspectives and experiences, we can develop more comprehensive and effective solutions to the complex issues facing the criminal justice system. We must remove any barriers or limits to diversity and ensure that all voices are heard and represented," he voices out.

SIDENT OF THE UNITE
VOSS
ALMOND
ALMOND
180 Snacks
180 Snacks

"Success can take many forms, and it's important to stay open to different paths and perspectives."

BUSINESS
CONCEPT

ON AIR
Tulane University
KAMALA
Certificate of Hon

As an advocate for social justice, Paul uses his voice to promote equity and address systemic inequalities. “The legal system is one of the most important tools we have to build and reform systems. As a legal practitioner, I have witnessed how rules and regulations are created and interpreted, and I strongly believe that they should be racially neutral and intentionally inclusive to ensure equity for all,” he imparts.

Paul considers the policies and programs he led in the justice system, which reformed incarceration models and increased accountability to disenfranchised communities, to be one of his greatest achievements. “The programs that helped connect services to people in crisis were just as important as the policies that reformed race-disparate practices from law enforcement agencies. From the perspective of public service, those efforts have had a profound impact on both individuals and communities, and have helped to make the justice system more equitable, effective, and just,” he informs.

The most rewarding aspect of Paul’s work is the collaboration with new people and organizations. “What excites me is when individuals from large corporations, such as finance, tech, housing, or real estate, inform me that my agency has given them a better understanding of how the justice system works and empowered them to make changes. This motivates me to reach out to more agencies and have conversations about change and reform. I believe that change and reform begin with conversations and exposure to new ideas, which can lead to collaboration and building steps toward progress. As a voice of authority with my background, degree, and experience, I aim to explain complex ideas to people and see them take ownership. The support I receive for my vision is humbling, and I am grateful for the opportunity to make a difference.” He smiles.

Paul’s unfaltering commitment to public service has earned him recognition as California’s Lawyer of the Year by the California Association of Black Lawyers, recognition of his exceptional legal expertise and dedication to promoting justice and equality. As a speaker and media personality, Paul utilizes his insightful perspective and dynamic speaking skills to inspire and empower audiences across the country. Paul’s impact extends beyond the legal profession, as he continues to make his mark as a contributing writer for Politico.com and a respected member of California Lawyer Magazine’s editorial board. His regular appearances on top news networks such as MSNBC, CNN, and PBS, and his role as an on-air legal analyst for CBS News in San Francisco, have cemented his foundation as a leading voice in the fight for justice reform. Paul also sits on the board of Warner Music Group to help manage funds to build social justice throughout the world.

Over the years of being in the industry, Paul has acquired insight that people are eager to learn and engage in difficult conversations to address complex issues. “Providing guidance and sharing good ideas can encourage participation. I have witnessed how small shifts can create significant changes, starting with conversations and dialogues. It is inspiring to know that we can make a difference, and every encounter presents an opportunity to build allies, collaborate, and effect change. My work extends beyond myself, and that is empowering,” he says.

Aside from being in the political arena, Paul is a proud collector of Black art. He views his collection as a medium for promoting social justice activism. Believing that Black artists have been historically overlooked and undervalued in the art world, Paul collects art to provide support and recognition to these talented individuals. “Black art has a rich history of exploring themes of identity, social justice, and resistance, which allows me to engage in meaningful conversations with others. The act of collecting Black art also serves as a form of resistance against a system that has excluded Black artists and promotes a more inclusive art world. My collection allows me to celebrate and honor my own identity as a Black person, connecting me more deeply with my heritage. This represents my commitment to social justice and belief in the transformative power of art,” he expresses.

Beyond continuing to lead the work related to law enforcement reform, Paul is excited about the evolving impact he’s able to assert in the art world. “I advise several influential museums, galleries, and collectors that define opportunities in the art world and I am passionate about the opportunity to connect emerging and existing wealth from minority communities to our own culture. I believe that we can use both culture and art to build bridges to a more inclusive economy and effective advocacy,” he briefs.

When it comes to pursuing a career in public service, Paul offers valuable advice for those who wish to follow in his footsteps. “Firstly, landing an internship can be a powerful step towards gaining experience and building connections. Networking is also key and can begin by connecting with people in your immediate circle. It is also helpful to follow individuals whom you admire and participate in movements, conversations, and activities that align with your interests. This kind of exposure can lead to a wider range of interpretations of success, and provide opportunities to learn, see, and replicate success on an international scale. It’s vital to seek out individuals who inspire you, but also challenge yourself by following someone you don’t know or understand. This can enable you to see things differently and foster growth in ways you may not have experienced before. Success can take many forms, and it’s important to stay open to different paths and perspectives,” he concludes.

Looking back, Paul believes that his childhood curiosity fueled his sense of wonder by exploring beyond his surroundings, which awakened him to use his voice to bring justice, create opportunities, and overcome barriers.

Paul David Henderson is *A True Force for Change*.

ELIZABETH BARLOW

@elizabethbarlowartist

Elizabeth Barlow has exhibited over the years with Andra Norris Gallery in Burlingame, California. She work is in private and public collections. After her move to Carmel-by-the-Sea she found herself immersed in the beauty of nature and flowers become her subject. Elizabeth sees flowers as a potent symbol of life force, of strength within fragility, and of the power of re-emergence that lies within all living things. Elizabeth Barlow: “I have discovered that painting the intricate details of a flower is a meditation that promotes a deep reverence for all things.”
From flora fauna, Monterey Museum of Art, 2022

Creative Director and Writer: **HEIDE VANDOREN BETZ** @heidebetz
Copy Editor: **KIEDO VILLANUEVA** @kei_villanueva
Art Director: **NIGEL JOHN DEL MUNDO** @nigeldelmundo
Photographer: **VINCENT GOTTI** @vinniegotti

BUSINESS
CONCEPT

Paying Attention to Beauty Will Transform How You Walk Through the World

by ***Heide VanDoren Betz***

Heide VanDoren Betz: Please tell us about your background, your upbringing.
Elizabeth Barlow: I grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah in a house filled with art and surrounded by flower gardens. It now seems inevitable that I am painting flowers. My father, the late Utah artist Philip Barlow, was enormously gifted and was my first mentor. My parents collected art, and our family vacations always involved visits to galleries and museums. Art was a natural part of our family life. My mother was, and is, a passionate gardener, and our backyard had flowers, a little pond, paths, and very little grass. Of course, as a child, I envied friends whose yards had actual lawns!

I always loved drawing. I was consumed with horses as a girl and drew them obsessively. My first art "success" was my picture book "Posey the Skunk" which won an award in my elementary school. But that first accolade for my art didn't keep me from the lure of theater. I fell in love with acting in high school and decided to study acting in college (to my parents' distress).

ALWAYS SIT NEXT TO THE BEST PERSON IN THE ROOM

HB: And your education. Did you attend art school?
EB: I enrolled at the University of Utah in the theater department, and had dreams of becoming a stage actor. At one point, I was accepted into the American Academy of Dramatic Art in LA (more worry for my parents), but at the last moment, decided to stay in college (huge parental relief). Ultimately, I went on to earn my Master's degree in History from the University of Virginia. I wasn't making art at that point, but would draw and paint with my father on vacations. Yet, there was always this quiet urge to paint. Several years later, while sitting on a bench in Tiburon, looking out at San Francisco Bay, I knew I had to paint. When I told my father, he said, "Okay, great! You have talent but you need to study seriously." I enrolled in the Post-Baccalaureate Art Studio Program and UC Berkeley Extension. It took me years to complete the program, but it transformed my life. Later, I had the great privilege of living in NYC for a month and studying all day, every day at the legendary Art Students League of New York. What I learned in that month strengthened my skills and deepened my confidence.

The best advice I ever received was from my father. When I began taking art classes he said, "Always sit next to the best person in the room." What he meant was to sit next to someone whose talent and skill will inspire you instead of meekly sitting at the back of the class (which most of us naturally want to do). It's such a powerful lesson for art and life.

THE PERFECT YIN/YANG MOMENTS

HB: Tell us about your career with several of San Francisco Opera's famous directors. How many years were you with the Opera?
EB: I worked at San Francisco Opera for 15 years, beginning in the Marketing/PR Department, and eventually becoming assistant to the General Director. While in the marketing department, I became friends with a colleague who was also a serious musician. He went on to become one of our most important contemporary opera composers–Jake Heggie. He arranged the music for the wedding of my husband Stephen in 2006. I created a painting that celebrated his marriage to actor Curt Branom. We shared many hilarious escapades together over the years.

I had the great privilege to be the assistant to two General Directors, Pamela Rosenberg and David Gockley. I sat outside the director's office door and from this close vantage point, witnessed the creation of many astonishing operas and I met great opera artists. I am still friends with Pamela and David; I loved every moment in that job, dramatic and "operatic" it might have been at times.

Most importantly, I met my husband, Stephen McClellan at the Opera. His assistant thought he should meet me, and so he went to the Opera's annual meeting and asked to be introduced to me. On paper, we weren't an obvious match. He is retired from Wall Street and had little exposure to the art world, and I have been in the arts my entire life. But we are perfectly suited in a Yin/Yang way; we balance and enhance one another's life. We were married in 2006 and I left the Opera at that time to devote myself full-time to my art practice.

HB: Did this experience influence your own path to the creative?

EB: One of the most wonderful things about working at San Francisco Opera was that many, if not most, of the administrative staff were artists in their own right. We had our "day" jobs at the Opera which helped support our artistic callings. Many of my colleagues were actors, singers, composers, writers, dancers, and musicians. I can't imagine working in a more artistically supportive place. I woke up each morning very early and painted or drew before going to the Opera House, and spent my weekends painting in my tiny studio at the Richmond District. I had my first art exhibition while working at San Francisco Opera, and some of my first collectors were Opera colleagues and supporters. If you want to discover new talent, look into the administrative staffs of arts organizations!

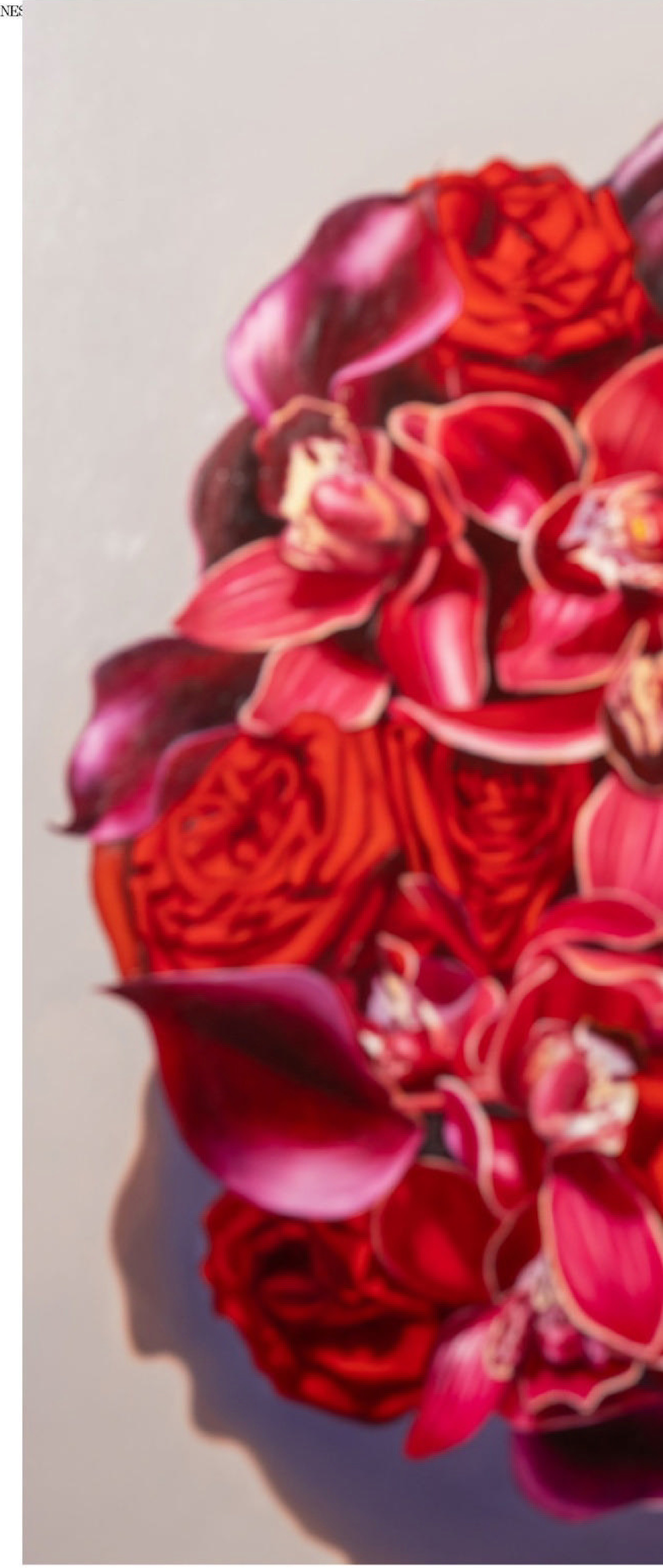
ART IS AN AUTHENTIC EXPRESSION OF THE WAY THE ARTIST SEES THE WORLD

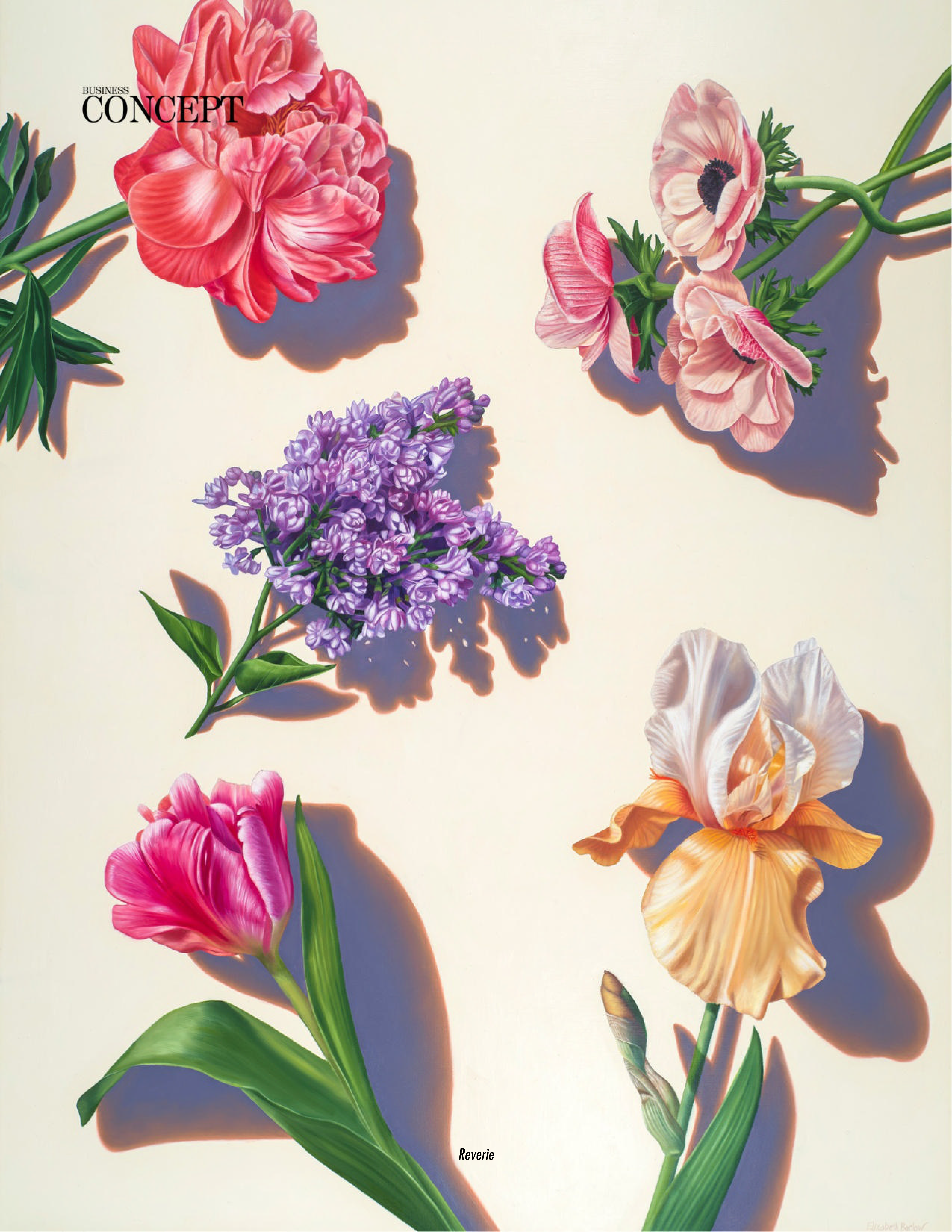
HB: Which artists continue to inspire you and why?

EB: In addition to my father, Philip Barlow, who showed me what it means to live with an artist's eye and heart. I am inspired by artists (of all stripes) whose art emerges from their way of being. Georgia O'Keeffe is my great goddess because her work was an authentic expression of the way she perceived our world, and the way she lived was an embodiment of that deep seeing.

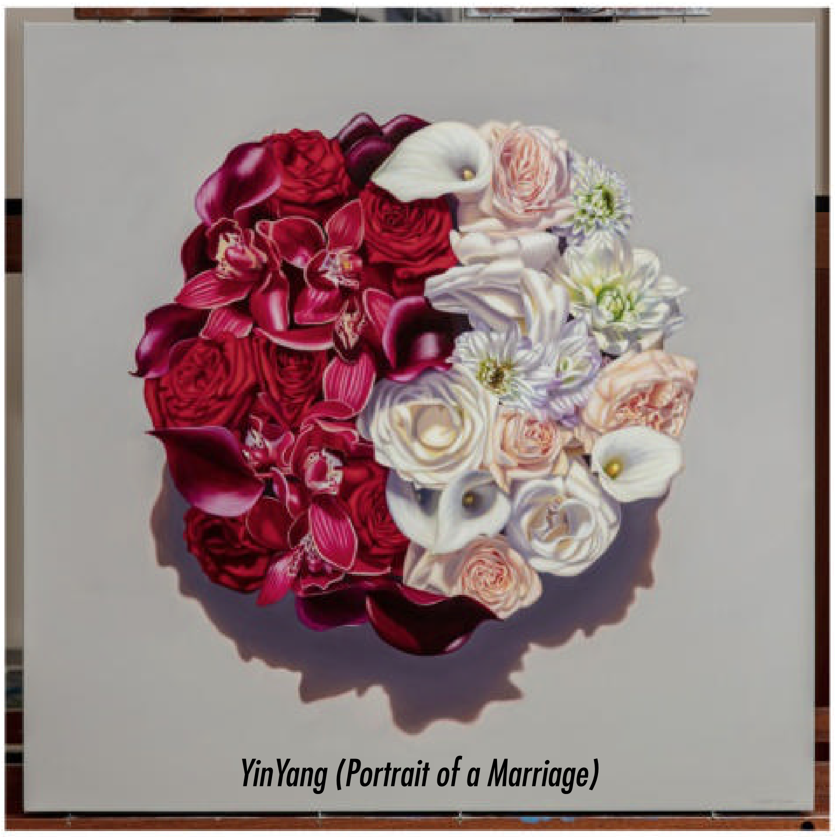
HB: Among your first paintings were several unique "portraits". Please tell us a bit about these; why/how were they "portraits"?

EB: For many years, I created a series of paintings called "Portraits in Absentia." In these still life paintings, I used people's cherished possessions as symbols to tell the story of their lives on the canvas. One of my important paintings is called *Portrait of a Marriage*. It is a celebration of my dear friends' Jake Heggie and Curt Branom's wedding, which took place in 2008, when gay marriages were first being permitted in San Francisco. The painting shows their wedding shoes, arranged on the canvas as if Jake and Curt are dancing together, or embracing. This painting is perfect example of how my "portraits" of seemingly ordinary objects can convey deep, personal, and even historical meaning.

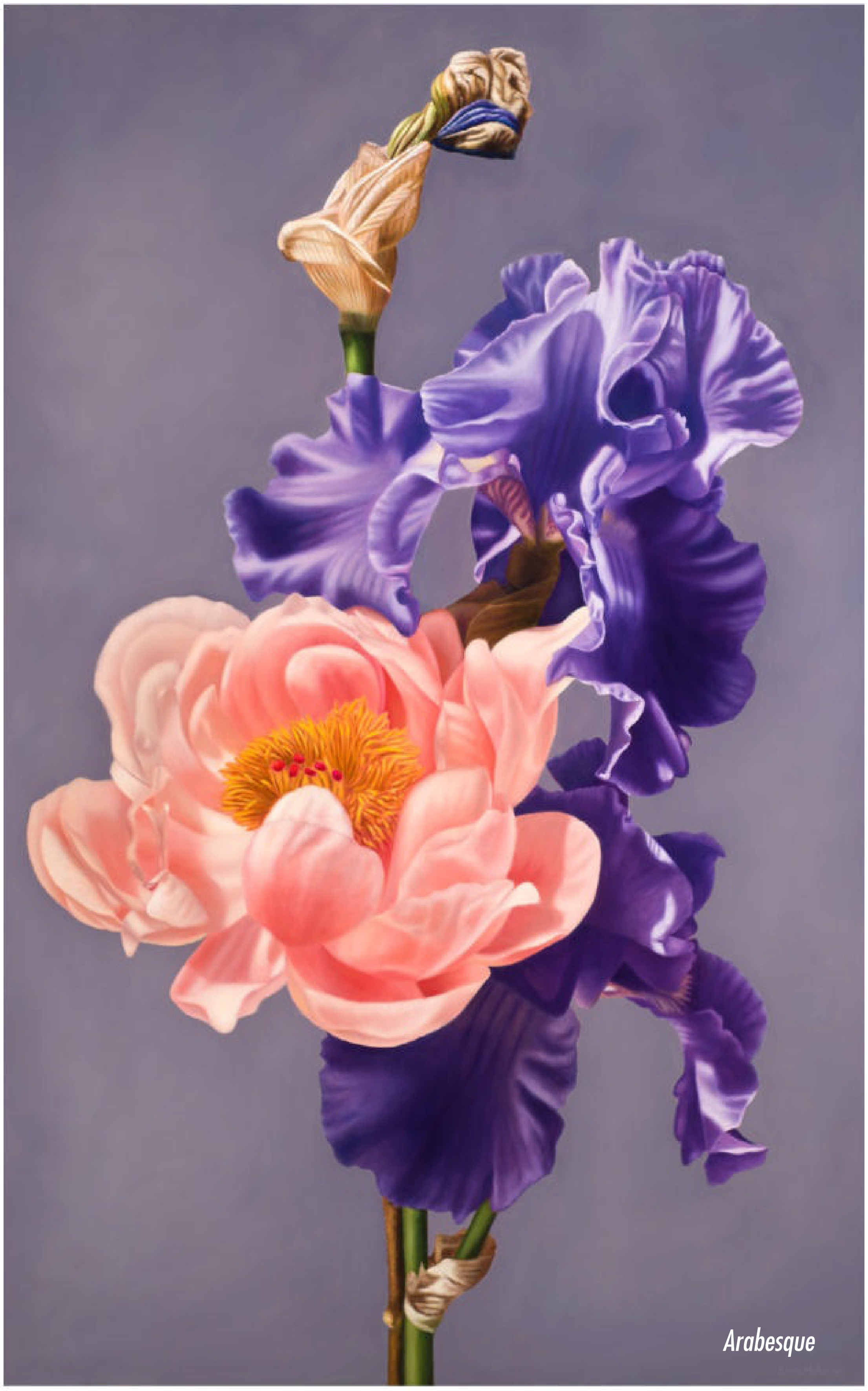




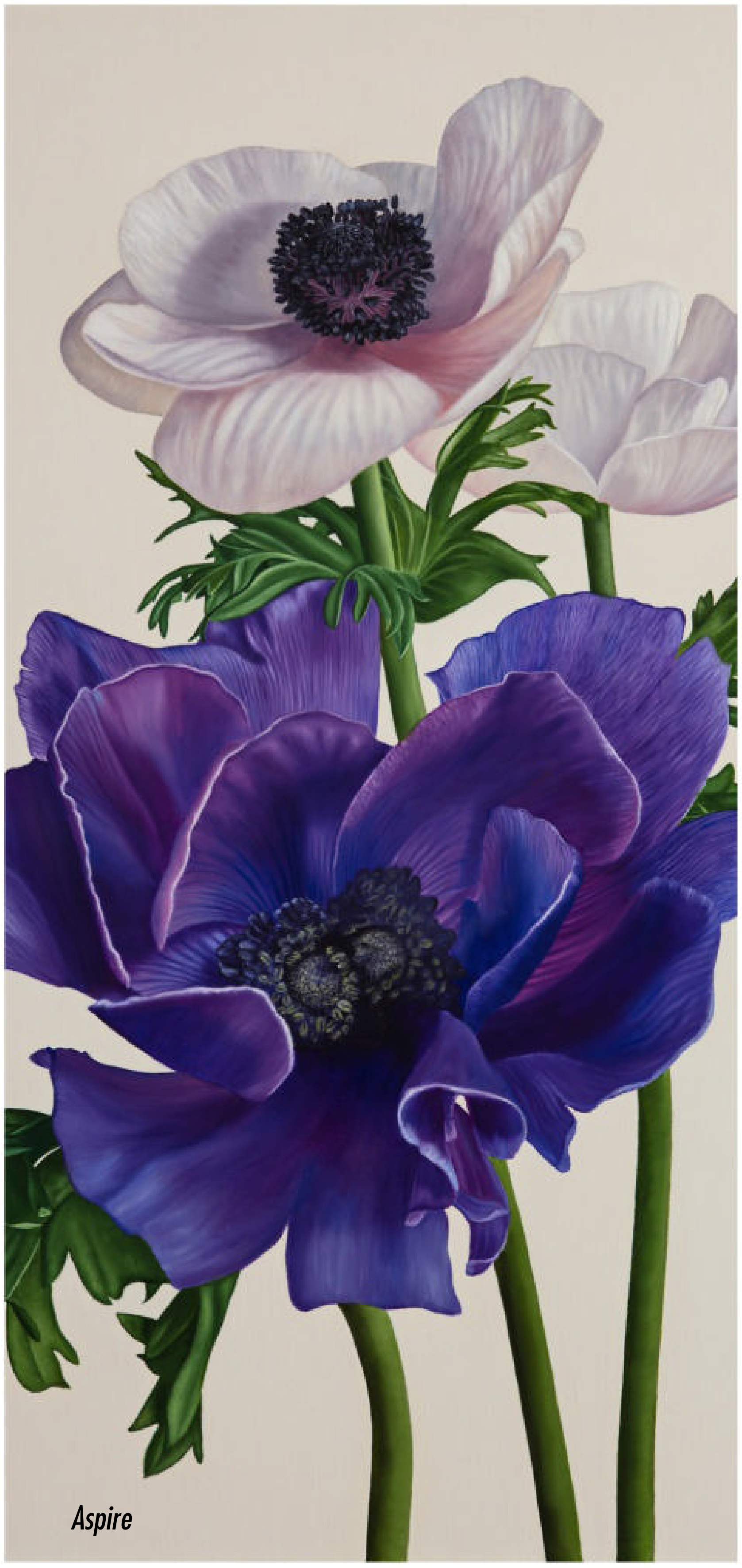
Reverie



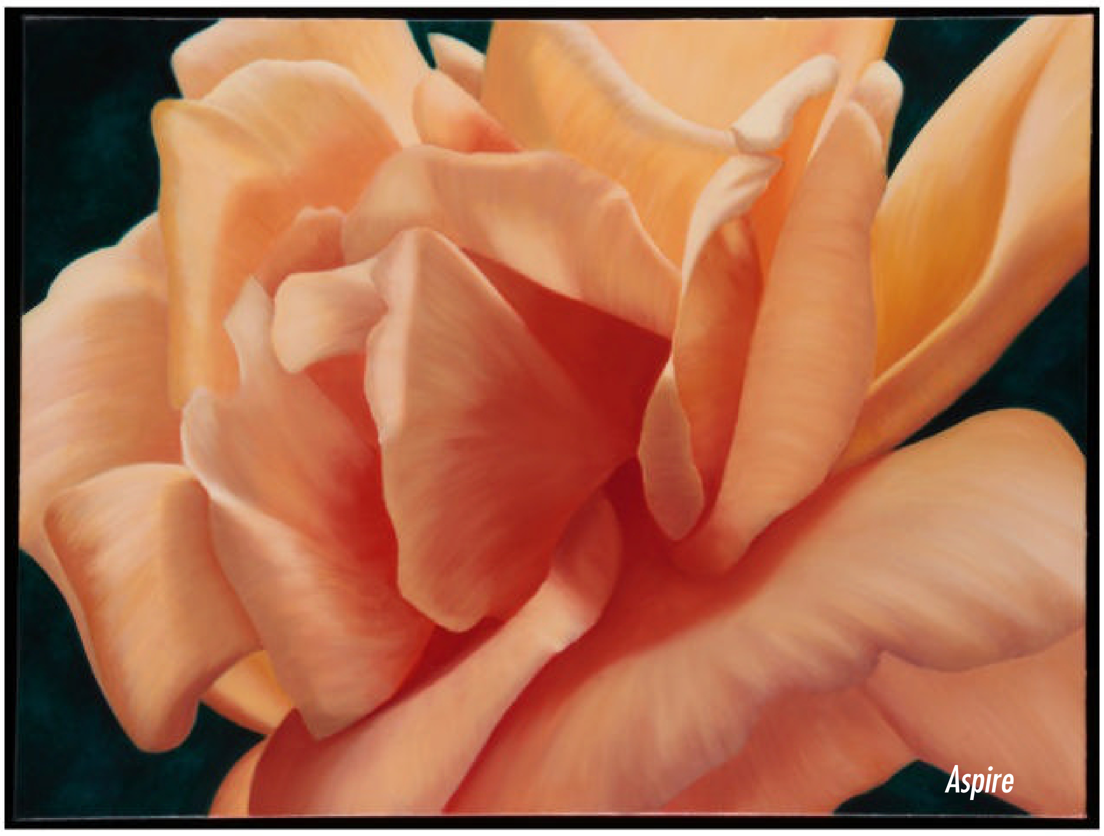
YinYang (Portrait of a Marriage)



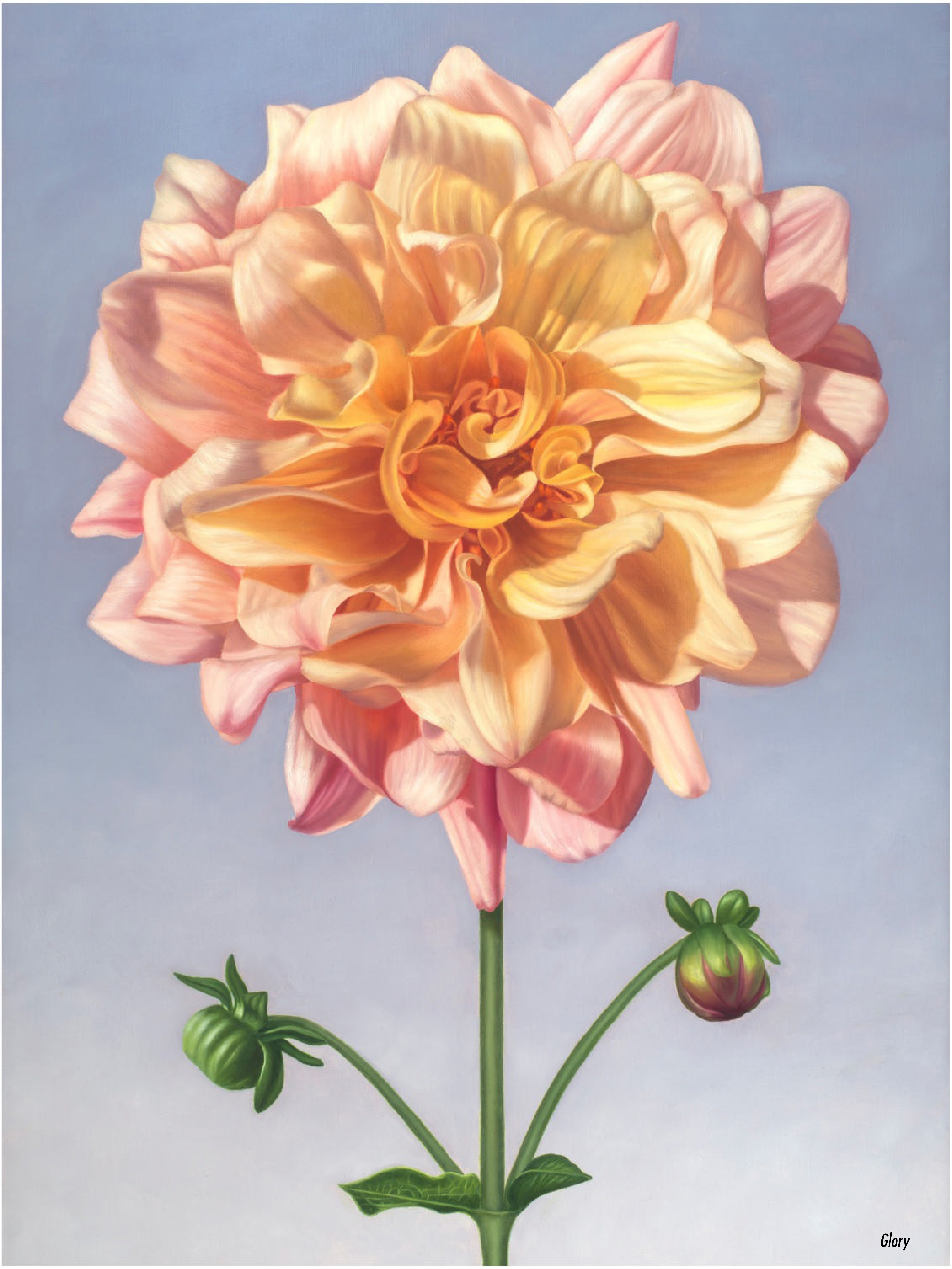
Arabesque



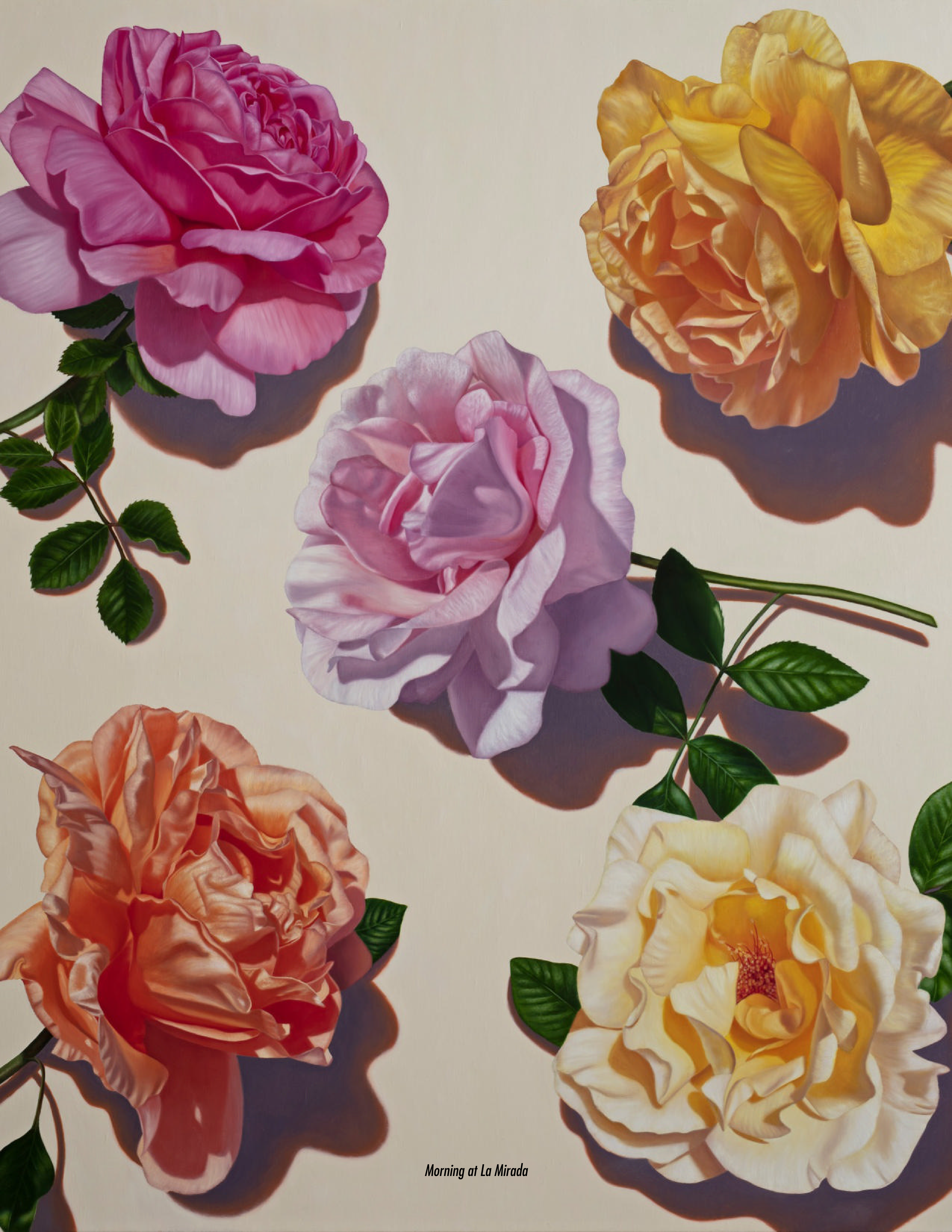
Aspire



Aspire

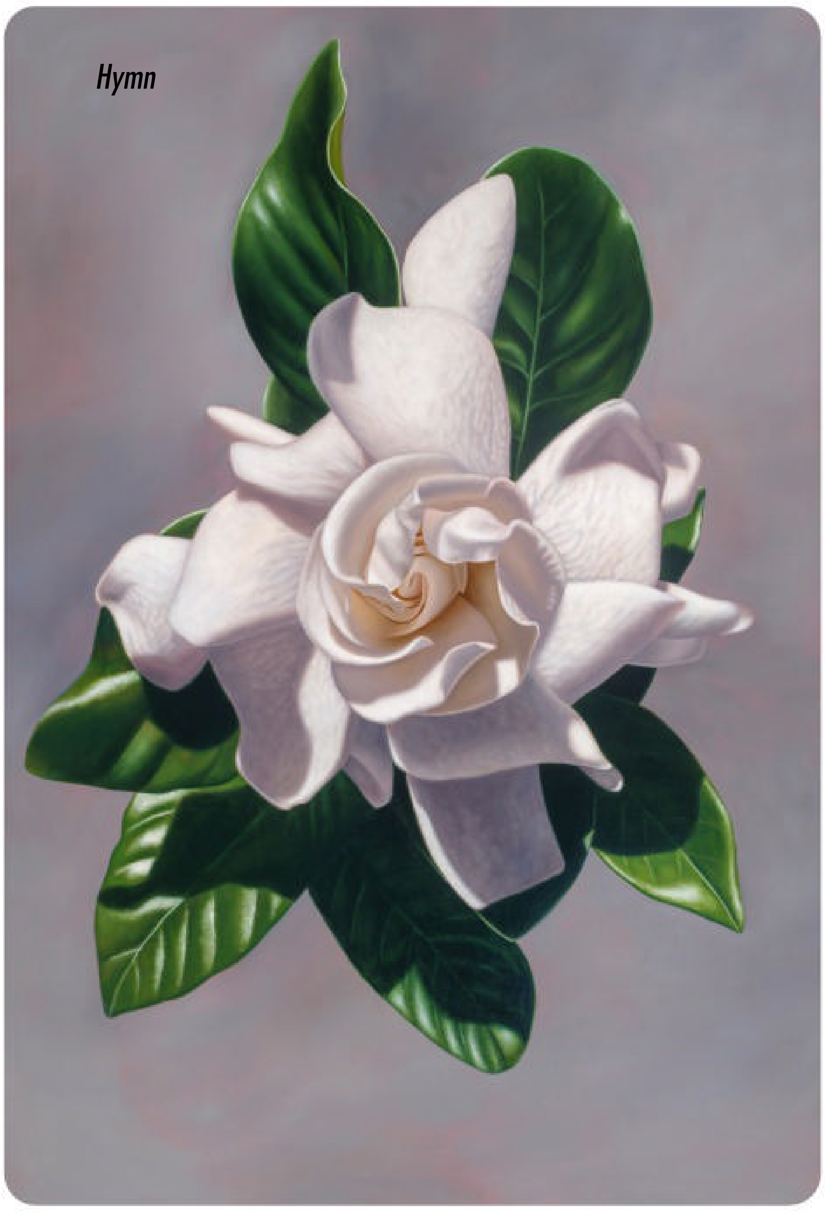


Glory



Morning at La Mirada

BUSINESS
CONCEPT



A PAINTING CAN BE INCREDIBLY SEXY AND AT THE SAME TIME BEAUTIFULLY PURE.

HB: Tell us about your early paintings of (delightfully provocative) fruit.
EB: Ah, yes! I loved painting voluptuous fruit because it evokes the sensuality of a nude in a playful way. A painting of a luscious peach can be incredibly sexy, but it can also be beautifully pure.

MEDITATION BRINGS A POWERFUL SENSE OF GRACE AND BALANCE TO LIFE AND ART

HB: You now live in stunningly beautiful Carmel-by-the-Sea with your husband Stephen and super-star poodle Chanel. Is Carmel's scenic natural beauty your inspiration?
EB: In 2006, my husband Stephen and I decided to go on an adventure and try living in Carmel-by-the-Sea for a year. We have always loved the Monterey Peninsula and our wedding was here in 2006. Within a month, we both knew we wanted to stay. I left behind an exciting, bustling urban life and suddenly found myself surrounded by ocean mists, sea birds, twisting cypresses, and year-round flowers everywhere. At about the same time, I committed myself to a daily meditation practice, which has brought a powerful sense of grace and balance to my life and art. I found a light-filled studio in a historic church in downtown Carmel, across from The Cypress Inn, with windows looking out onto the church's enchanting garden. Within months, I felt called to paint flowers.

HB: How do you know when you are done with one of your meticulous floral creations (most artists tell me it's hard to know when to stop).
EB: For me, it's pretty simple. As a painting is nearing completion, I arrive at the studio each day and see something here, or something there, that needs my attention. And then one day, I walk in and the painting has just stopped speaking to me. It no longer needs anything from me and can now live in the world as itself.

LOOKING AT A FLOWER CAN TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE

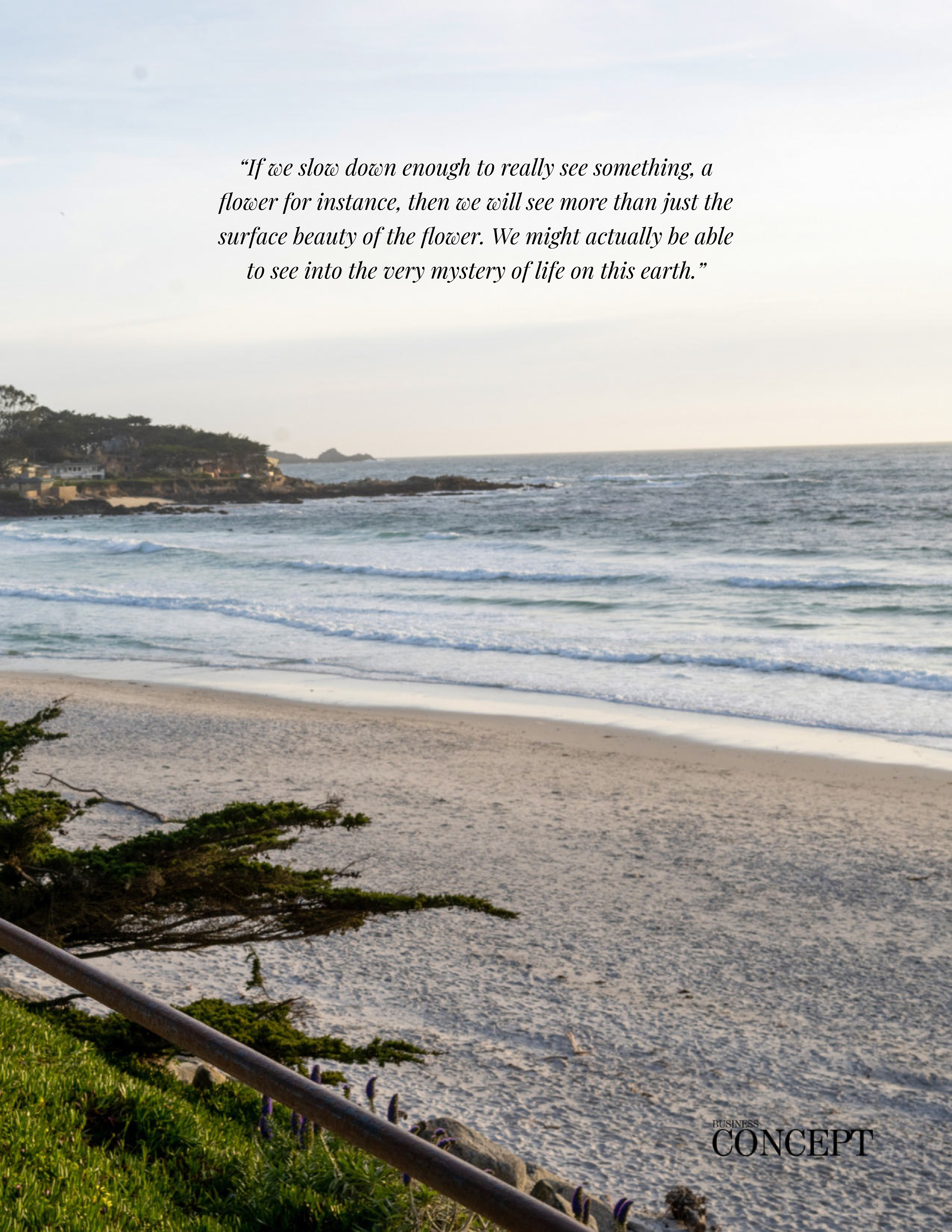
HB: Do you have a philosophy about your works of art?
EB: My paintings are a wake-up call to pay attention to beauty because it will transform how we walk through this world. By slowing down and looking at things sincerely–in my case, by painting flowers–I find my days filled with awe and delight. Flowers and beauty have awakened me from a "sleep" of busyness into the wonder of presence. Looking at a flower can transform your life. It certainly has with mine.

HB: What do you love most about painting flowers? Your color palette for the flowers is very vibrant.
EB: (Laughing) I have always been drawn to the subtle color shifts in the work of Vermeer and Rembrandt. But interestingly, my own work is much higher in chroma. I believe that while we see the world using our intellect, our hearts have "eyes" too. My daily meditation practice strengthens my ability to see with my heart–to see the "being-ness" of all living things. And the eyes of my heart see the world in rich, saturated color!

HB: Do you have a favorite flower you are compelled to paint?
EB: I haven't yet met a flower I don't want to paint!

HB: Tell us about your commission of the "Phoenix Rose".
EB: Shortly after we moved to Carmel, I received a very important and emotional painting commission. A vineyard owner and his wife lost their home in the devastating 2017 California Wine Country Fires, barely escaping with their lives. Everything on the property was destroyed and the only things that survived were the vines and one rose bush. Even more tragedy followed when the wife died several months later. But then something amazing happened: that single rose bush began to bloom gloriously. The homeowner decided to build a new house on the same site and asked me to create a 6-foot painting of that rose bush for the new house. I took hundreds of photos of the roses to use as references for my painting, but I did not want to paint an actual replica of the rose bush. I wanted to capture the strength and resilience of this beautiful living thing. We titled the painting *The Phoenix Rose*, because it literally rose out of the ashes. What I learned with The *Phoenix Rose* painting is that flowers are more than just objects of beauty, they can be potent symbols of strength within seeming fragility of hope and renewal. Flowers can tell the stories of our lives in subtle and powerful ways.

HB: What are some of the challenges you have faced in painting?
EB: When I was a young painter, I used to struggle with the work and become disheartened or dismayed when a painting wasn't working out. Now, with deepened skills and knowledge, I no longer have those moments of panic or despair. I know that if I close the door of the studio, go home, and come back the next day with a refreshed spirit and eyes, I will find my way.



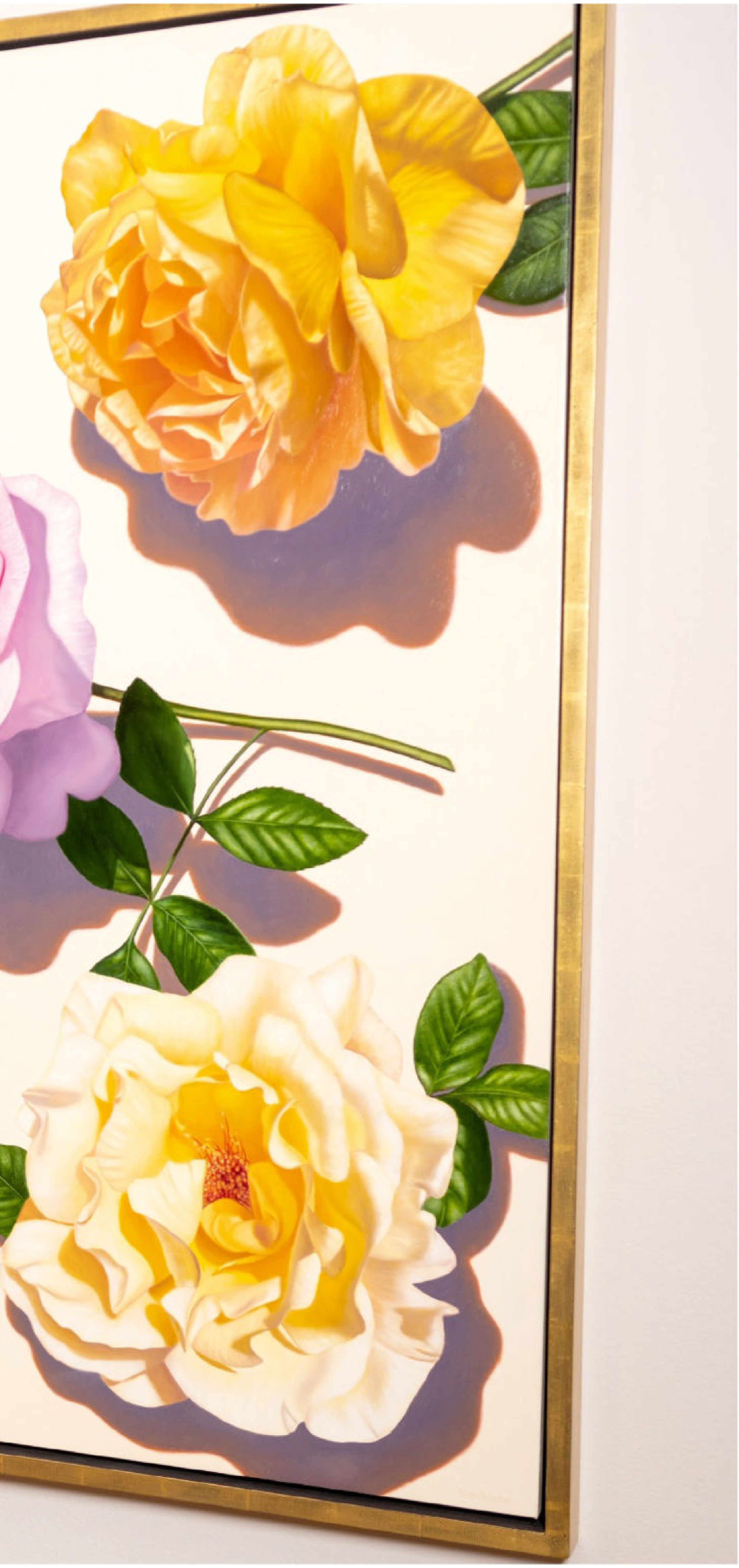
> *“If we slow down enough to really see something, a flower for instance, then we will see more than just the surface beauty of the flower. We might actually be able to see into the very mystery of life on this earth.”*

HB: What is your process? How do you start a painting; is there a ritual for you?

EB: Every painting begins with hundreds of photos of my flower subjects. I always shoot the photos outdoors at golden hour. I love that magic time of day when the light is gold and the shadows are long and violet-hued. I draw the flowers on the canvas and then begin my long painting process. I am a slow painter by intention and choice. I paint in glazed layers so that the light passes through the paint and creates a luminous surface. The gifts of slow painting and of mindful living are similar: they allow us to calm our minds, perceive more deeply, and perhaps discover some hidden truths that are always right before us. My painting and meditation practices are always accompanied by tea. The ritual of boiling the water, pouring it in a slow trickle over the tea, and then holding the warm cup in my hands is pure pleasure and comfort.

HB: The four-month exhibition "Flora Fauna" featuring you and Susan Manchester at the Monterey Museum of Art just concluded. Tell us about this experience.

EB: Exhibiting my work at the Monterey Museum has been a joy from beginning to end. It has allowed me to see in real time why art is important. I've been able to talk with the museum visitors regularly and hear their thoughts and responses to my paintings, which aren't necessarily what I think and feel about the paintings. That is the miracle of art. An artist offers her vision and her spirit in a painting. And then the viewer offers back her own vision and spirit in response to the painting. There is an amazing alchemy there, and a new dialogue and energy are shared. And that energy feeds our souls.



A BIT ABOUT YOU:

What is your favorite activity other than painting?
Sitting by the fire at the end of the day with my husband and our toy poodle Chanel. Sipping a glass of wine and talking about our days, our families, and our world. A close second is sharing a meal with friends anywhere in Carmel or San Francisco.

Where do you like to vacation?
Can I change that question to "Where do you NOT like to vacation"? In no particular order: Deer Valley, NYC, London, Paris, Santa Fe.

Your favorite restaurants in your Carmel/Monterey area?
Grasings, Bernardus Lodge, The Bench at Pebble Beach.

A favorite painting or work of art from history?
John Singers Sargent's *The Daughters of Edward Darley Boit* and Velasquez's *Las Meninas*. I can stand in front of both of them for hours.

A favorite contemporary work of art or artist?
Anything by the late great Chilean painter Claudio Bravo. His work takes my breath away.

Your favorite food/drink?
Champagne, always, only, and forever!

HB: How would you like to be remembered?
EB: I want to share this reality: if we slow down enough to really see something, a flower for instance, then we will see more than just the surface beauty of the flower. We might actually be able to see into the very mystery of life on this earth. I would like to be remembered for this ability.

@elizabethbarlowartist

REDCARPET EVENTS

BULGARI RECEPTION

LUXURY TRENDING MAGAZINE Launch

Photography by **Drew Altizer**

The elegant issue of LUXURY TRENDING, April will tell you that the two amazing, interesting experts in all things fine Jewelry and luxury on the cover are with Bulgari, San Francisco.

Bulgari with store manager, Ana Blackwell and high jewelry expert, Ivan Bekichev hosted a reception at the stunning Union Square, San Francisco store. Guests were dazzled by the beautiful Bulgari jewels including the famous Serpenti collection; Ana wowed the guests wearing an exquisite necklace from the collection. Champagne, caviar and other delectable nibbles kept everyone in good spirits.

The April issue also featured the world renowned artist Kehinde Wiley exhibiting his breathtaking paintings and sculptures in " An Archeology of Silence" at the de Young Museum, San Francisco as well as multi-dimensional artist, photographer and historian, Ron Henggeler.

Ivan Bekichev and Anna Blackwell

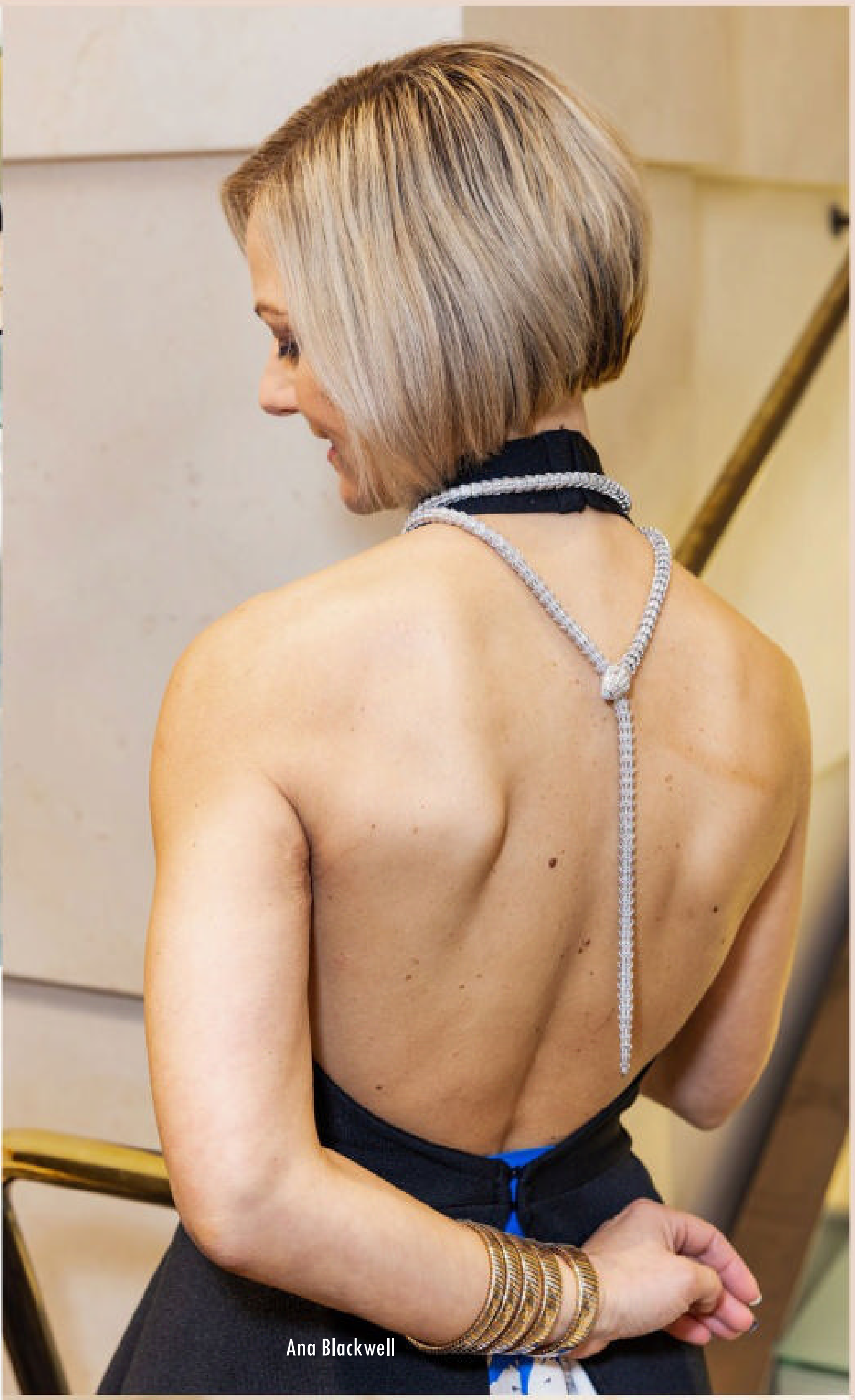
Vincent Gotti, James Sumortin and Liam Henson

Marielle Gonzalez, Ana Blackwell, Vincent Gotti, James Sumortin and Liam Henson

Ron Henggeler, Heide Betz, Antonio Contreras, Ana Blackwell and Kent Slauenwhite

Isaac Montes, Vincent Gotti, Heide Betz and Humberto Garibay

Helena Wong, Lu Lu, Didi Gao, Ivan Bekichev, Chalmer Dillard and Ana Blackwell



Ana Blackwell

Kent Slauenwhite, Didi Gao and Lu Lu

Ivan Bekichev, Heide Betz, Ana Blackwell and Vincent Gotti

Helena Wong, April and Les

Antonio Contreras

Lu Lu, Kent Slauenwhite and Didi Gao

Ana Blackwell and Christina Kong

Ana Blackwell and Kent Slavenwhite

Kent Slavenwhite and Chalmer Dillard

Ron Henggeler and Heide Betz

Heide Betz

Robert Girard and Phoebe Cowles

THE CAVIAR CO.

Ivan Bekichev and Phoebe Cowles

Christina Kong, Christine Hong and Ana Blackwell

Heide Betz and Ivan Bekichev

Ana Blackwell

Ana Blackwell and Christina Kong

Chloe Kan, Christine Hong and Christina Kong

Christina Kong

Christina Gearity, Ana Blackwell and Reese Norris

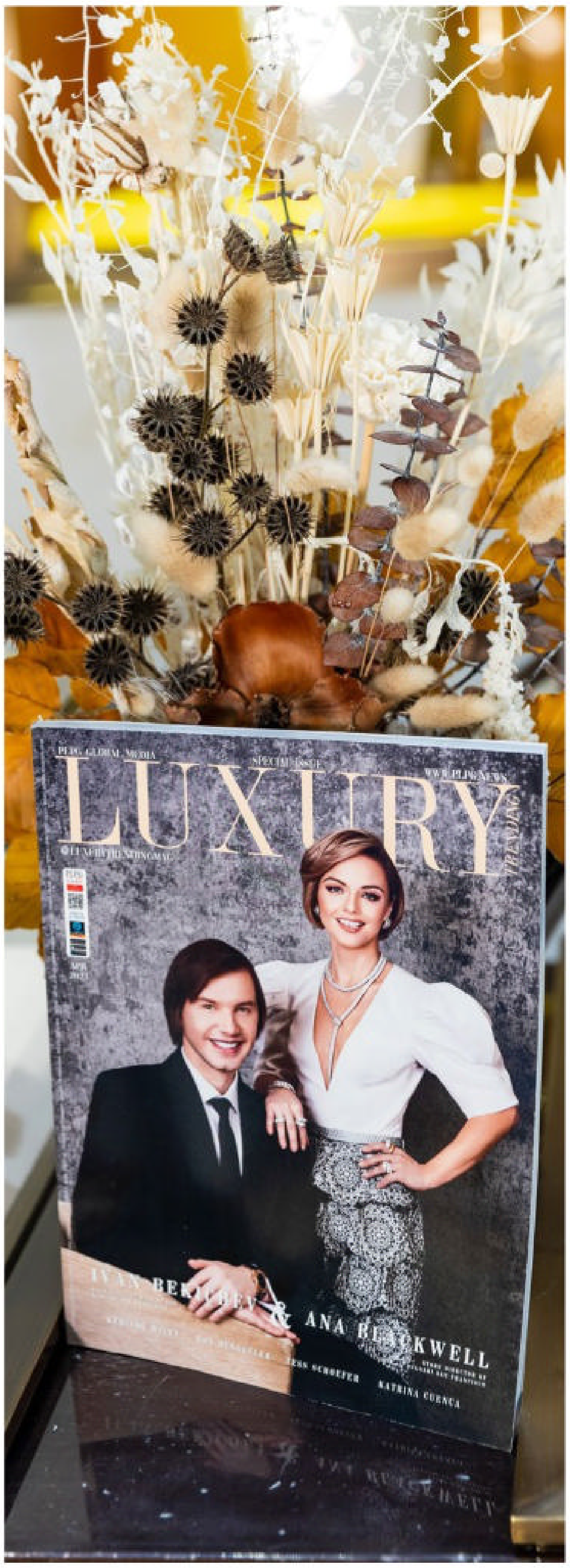
Hong Ye, Danielle Lopez, Angella Sprauve and Ivan Bekichev

Antonio Contreras, Nahla Geddawy, and Ji Young Park

Rosie Ellert, Carmen Legarda, Marcella Mange and Benjamin Viva

Ivan Bekichev and Chelsea Clark

Ron Henggeler and Steven


PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA
SPECIAL ISSUE
WWW.PLPG.NEWS
LUXURY
TRENDING
KATRINA CUENCA
ANA BLACKWELL

Carmen Legarda and Heide Betz

Rita Garcia, Inette Montes, Angella Sprauve, Ivan Bekichev and Ana Blackwell

"TIMELESS"

ASTRID CASTILLO-ALMARIO
RUNS AT GALERIE JOAQUIN BGC FROM APRIL 13-22, 2023

By Camille Calimon

Anthony Ancheta, Nando Singson, Zonia Singson, Astrid Castillo-Almario, Irene Hernandez-Castillo, Ricardo Hernandez & Hannah Go-Chua

As old as time, fairy tales were orally handed down from generation to generation and featured stories of magic, enchantment and mythical beings. A genre belonging to the general realm of folklore, the dark and more gruesome plot lines of the original stories were intended for adult audiences and were only eventually altered to what we know them to be today. "Once upon a time and In a land far away" were used as a prelude to the actual stories, without accurately referencing an actual date or time. Fairy tales were considered children's literature for a dominant part of history but have since evolved over time to a form of entertainment for all ages.

Inspired by fairy tales by the likes of Hans Christian Andersen, the Brothers Grimm, Jeanne-Marie Leprince de Beaumont, and Lewis Carroll among others, movie adaptations have given us a different take on our childhood bedtime stories with memorable soundtracks and beautiful imagery. Aside from the "happily ever after" and "true love" aspects of most fairy tales, the central figures, the heroines themselves also became a large part of what made these stories withstand the test of time. In particular, these adaptations portrayed these beloved female characters as strong women who discovered themselves through journeys and quests and emerged victorious after conquering various challenges and obstacles. The female protagonists are depicted as being beautiful both inside and out and were not the usual "damsels in distress" that the original fairy tale stories presented them to be. These heroines instead displayed strength of character and are spirited, independent and brave.

It is in the retelling of these tales that artist **Astrid Castillo-Almario** finds inspiration for her exhibit "Timeless." Featuring 16 paintings from 11 beloved tales, Astrid allows her viewers to revisit their childhood fantasies through the dresses of the female characters. Individually, the familiarity of each costume brings one back to the story, the music and the lessons learned/imparted by the character. Together as a collection, the paintings weave a tapestry of magic and wonder, allowing us to once again revisit and grow an even deeper appreciation for these classic narratives.

Rendered against a dark background, the intricate craftsmanship of the dresses is evident in the purposeful brushstrokes that give each dress a dynamic feel. The artist's attention to detail and focus on what seems to be unseen movements of the creases and folds of the fabric cleverly bring each dress and ultimately, each character to life. From the innocence of Alice's blue and white dress which bore witness to her wonderful adventures, to the magical jeweled hues of the dresses of the three good fairies (Flora, Fauna and Merryweather) of Princess Aurora's story, the viewer feels like he/she is drawn into the story, thus experiencing the magic firsthand. Astrid Castillo-Almario's "Timeless" takes us back to 1937's first feature-length animated film "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" all the way to the more recent adaptations like "Brave" and "Frozen."

Through this exhibit, Castillo-Almario encourages her viewers to journey with her through different centuries and places, both real and imagined. She helps us navigate various time periods and historical eras and in a sense, gives us a glimpse of what it was like through the fashion of that time. More importantly, Astrid allows us the opportunity to wish, hope and believe and with a little luck and some pixie dust, be brave enough to dream.

Astrid Castillo-Almario (b.1990) started painting at the age of 13. Influenced by her father and well-known Miniature Artist in the Philippines, the late Norris Castillo, Astrid started her art practice by painting landscapes, still-life and florals. She finished her Fine Arts – Major in Painting degree at the University of Santo Tomas in 2010, graduating with the "Best Thesis of the Year" Award. Her art influences include Shana Levenson and Serge Marshennikov. Castillo has participated in group shows both locally and abroad.

"Timeless" will be on view from April 13 to 22, 2023 with the Artist Reception slated for April 17, Monday at 5 PM. Galerie Joaquin BGC is located on the Upper Ground Floor of One Bonifacio High Street Mall, 5th Ave. Corner 28th Street, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig. For inquiries, contact +63 915 739 1549 or email galeriejoaquinbgc@gmail.com.

Jepoy Almario, Ma. Teresa Sarenas & Cj Tanedo

Jim Orencio & Astrid Castillo-Almario

Astrid Castillo-Almario & Jepoy Almario

Astrid Castillo-Almario & Lois Dy

Deseree Mangulabnan, Abdullah Mapandi, Astrid Castillo-Almario & Jepoy Almario

Enzo Arciaga, Regina Tamayo-Arciaga, Astrid Castillo-Almario, Jepoy Almario, Mack Arciaga, Aimee Nakpil, Lorenzo Nakpil & Jag Guevarra

Kath Sarmiento, Hesaya Hernandez, Haya Hernandez, Herbert Hernandez, Astrid Castillo-Almario, Jepoy Almario, Mayve Canamo, Darwin Hernandez, Kathy Hernandez, Chuck Isidro & Tina Isidro

Camille Ver, Astrid Castillo-Almario, Kat Cuenca & Carla Teotico

Roxanne Chua, Alyanna Orna, Astrid Castillo-Almario, Jepoy Almario, Angelia Orna, Jane Cruz & Ting Marco

Ricardo Hernandez, Wilkins Villanueva, Jepoy Almario, Astrid Castillo-Almario, Irene Hernandez-Castillo, Jara Almario, Heaven A. Remigio, Rey Esguerra, Nando Singson & Zonia Singson

Jepoy Almario, Al Cruz, Anika Cruz, Astrid Castillo-Almario, Arvin Closa, Gel Tumaning, Kreamme Dans Isaac, Jay Ann Fernandez & Dondi Fernandez

RV Basco, Jepoy Almario, Harry Tan, Astrid Castillo-Almario, Tina Basco,
Manuel Cuenca & Manolo Cuenca

Sham Guarin, Shishio, Cuckooh Calsado, Joanne Castillo, Richard Allan Galang,
Astrid Castillo-Almario, Arnel Reodique

TIMELESS
ASTRID CASTILLO ALMARIO
Ronnie Panday, Lindsay Corpuz, Rose Borondia, Dayana Raypan, Camille Calimon,
Jack Teotico, Astrid Castillo-Almario, Carla Teotico, Nico Teotico, Marilyn Espino, Arlene Sta. Ana

Kim Pabon, Carla Teotico, Astrid Castillo-Almario, Jepoy Almario, Wisely Russel Lo & DJ Perez

Nico Teotico, RV Basco, Tina Basco, Ikee Magisa, Gen Magisa, Kat Cuenca, Manolo Cuenca,
Manuel Cuenca, Jepoy Almario, Astrid Castillo-Almario, Norlie Meimban,
Lillibeth Meimban & Piolo Meimban

CALIFORNIA SYMPHONY

Fundraising Event

Photography by **Drew Altizer**

Bill Armstrong

California Symphony hosted a hot Havana-themed fundraising fiesta *Rhythms and Revelry* at the elegant Claremont Hotel on April 29 which included live entertainment by Grammy Award–winning ensemble Pacific Mambo Orchestra, a delicious three-course meal, and a high-spirited live auction. The event raised $191,000, the most money raised at a California Symphony event since 2010. Proceeds from *Rhythms and Revelry* benefit California Symphony and its music education programs, serving local underserved students and launching the careers of young American composers. The evening highlights included major announcements about the Symphony's future with Music Director Donato Cabrera and upcoming national radio programs, as well as a celebration for arts advocate William H. Armstrong ("Bill"). Armstrong's unparalleled efforts in advancing the arts in the community were honored with a heartfelt video message from Walnut Creek Mayor Cindy Silva, followed by remarks by California Symphony Board President Barbara Hodgkinson, and a proclamation presented by Mayor Pro Tem Loella Haskew.

Bill Armstrong and Navid Armstrong

Jennifer Cho and Alexandra Simpson

Bill Armstrong, Lisa Dell and Donato Cabrera

Emily Lieu-Harris, Joseph Copley, Mark Malaspina, Tiffany Wang, Navid Armstrong, Robert Saenz, Dea Wilson, James Kloss and Andrea Partridge

Janet Welter and Barbara Hodgkinson

Marcia Wilson and Hal Wilson

Emily Lieu-Harris and Joseph Copley

Kent Brooks and Rada Brooks

Jennifer Cho and Alexandra Simpson

Jackie Mills and Jacob Stensberg

Christopher Lawrie and Jarrod Baumann

Donato Cabrera

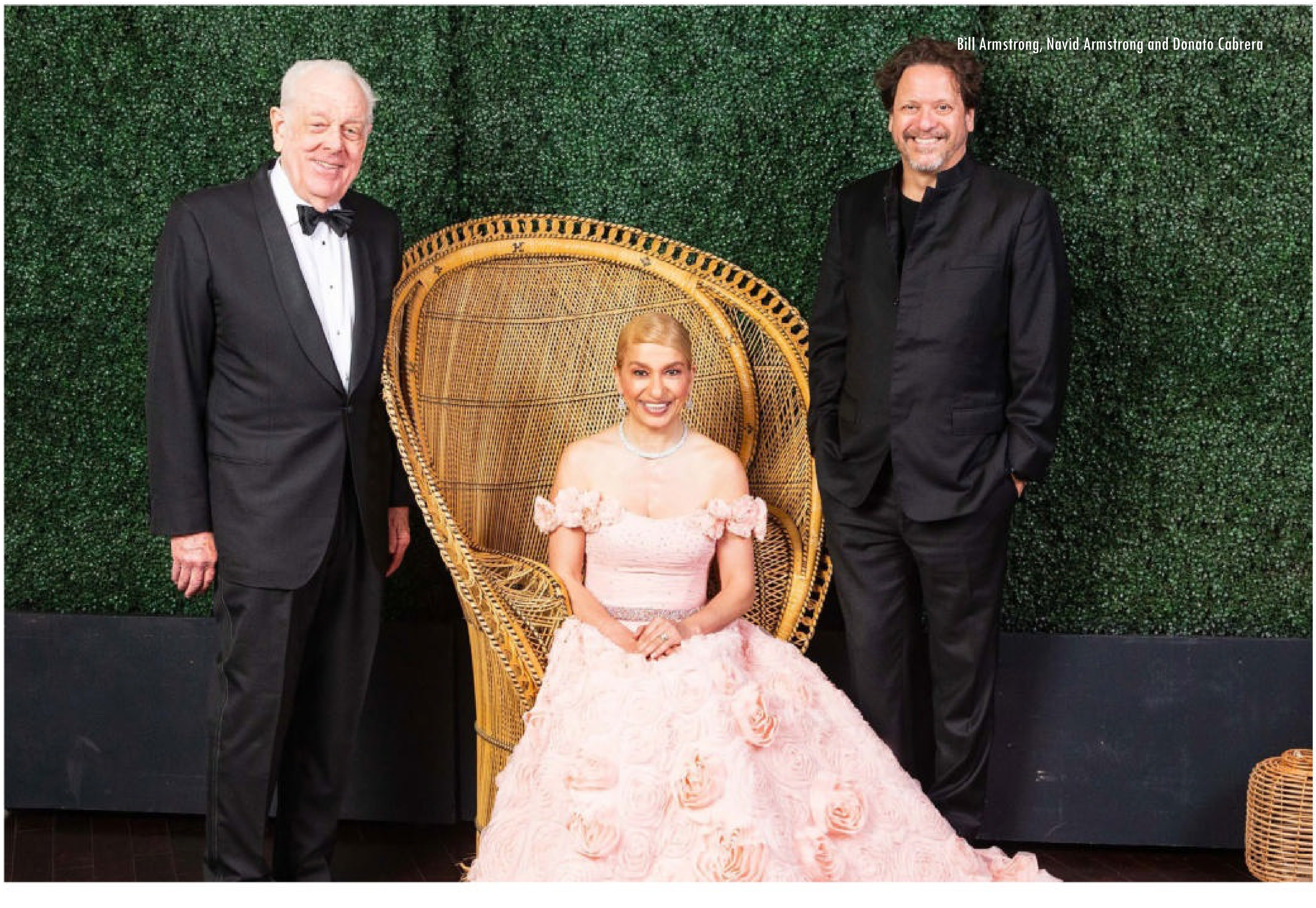
Barbara Hodgkinson

Damon Casatico and Mark Sullivan

PACIFIC MAMBO ORCHESTRA

Navid Armstrong and Robert Saenz

Tiffany Wang, Jarrod Baumann, Susy Sam-Vargas, Stephanie Ng and Christopher Lawrie



Bill Armstrong, Navid Armstrong and Donato Cabrera

Lisa Dell and Bill Armstrong

Jill Pietrowiak and Jeremy Gallaher

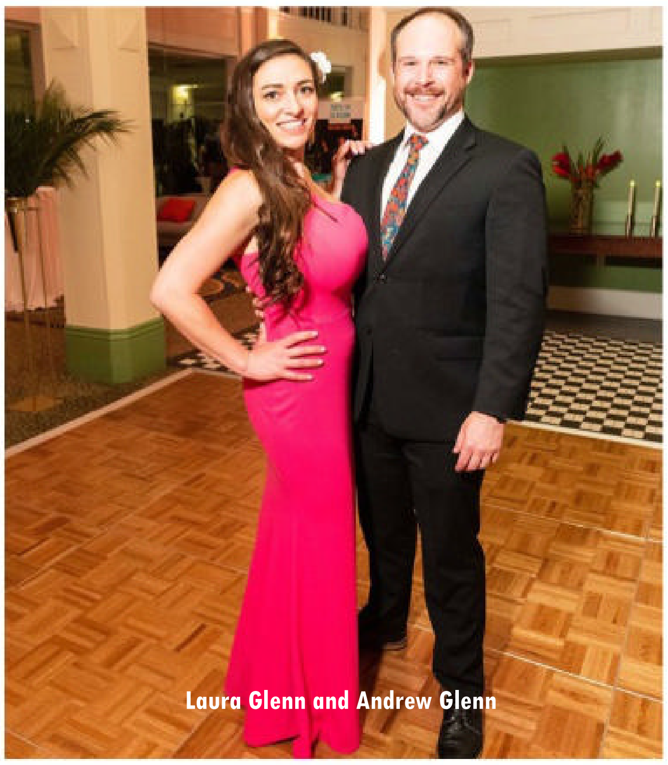
Jerome Guillen and Jeremy Gallaher

Tiffany Wang, Navid Armstrong and Dea Wilson

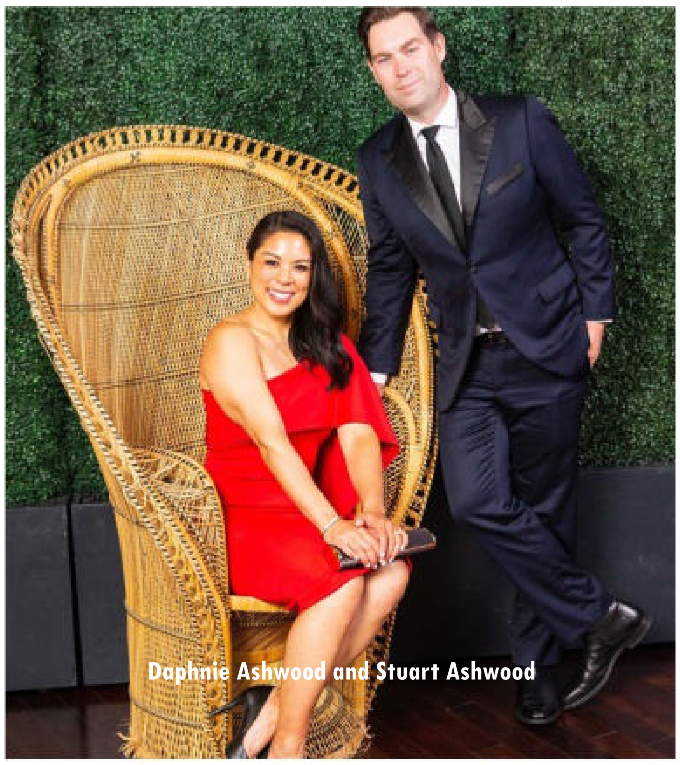
SPECIAL THANKS
AUCTION DONORS

Marcia Wilson and Donato Cabrera

Laura Glenn and Jackie Mills



Laura Glenn and Andrew Glenn



Daphnie Ashwood and Stuart Ashwood

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA

Fashion Show & Luncheon

May 4, 2023

Photography By: Drew Altizer

Georgina Chapman

The afternoon began with a champagne reception as guests arrived and admired the design stylings from J. Riccardo Benavides. Guest sat for the event's luncheon catered by McCalls Catering & Events, followed by a performance from the San Francisco Opera Guild Opera Scouts & live auction. The afternoon wrapped with a runway show of the Fall Marchesa 2023 collection.

Notable Attendees
Georgina Chapman, Founder & Designer of Marchesa
Maryam Muduroglu, President of the San Francisco Opera Guild
Kim Dempster, Event Co-Chair
Elizabeth Malkassian, Event Co-Chair
Jorge Maumer, Event Co-Chair

Sheila Nahi, Maryam Muduroglu, Courtney Labe and Elizabeth Malkassian

Neiman Marcus
presents

Barbara Brown and Carolyn Chang

Marcus
presents
CHES

Olivia Hsu Decker and Georgina Chapman

Anne Cochran and Stefanie Roumeliotes

Neiman Marc
presents
M CHE

Neiman
MARC

Elena Zorn

Nazan Orr and Lily Simii

Elizabeth Malkassian, Jorge Maumer and Kim Dempster

Sonya Molodetskaya and Georgina Chapman

Betty Yu and Christopher Wiseman

Joel Goodrich and Clara Shayevich

Kim Dempster, Georgina Chapman, Maryam Muduroglu, Elizabeth Malkassian and Jorge Maumer

Georgina Chapman

Maryam Muduroglu

Lisa Zabelle

Neiman Marcus
MARCHESA

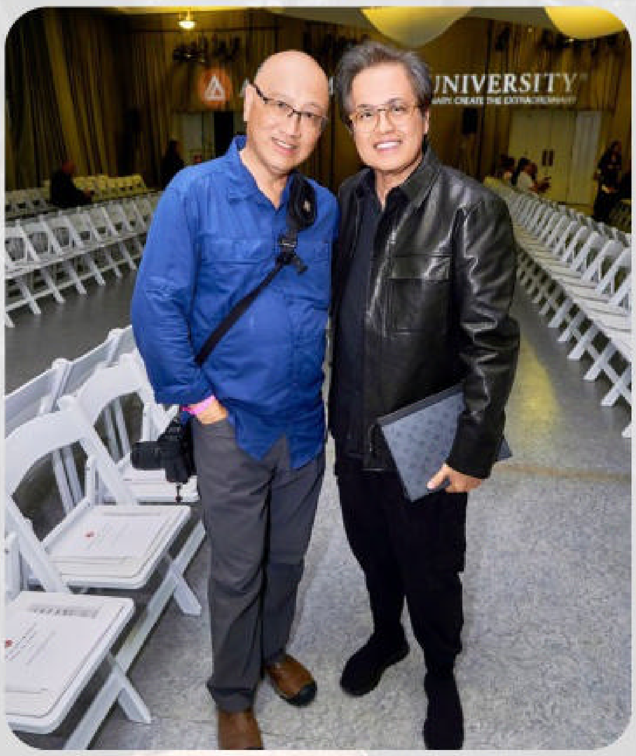
Roman Gronkowski, Daru Kawalkowski and Gioi Tran

VIP RECEPTION OF THE ACADEMY OF ART UNIVERSITY

Graduation 2023 Fashion Show

May 11, 2023

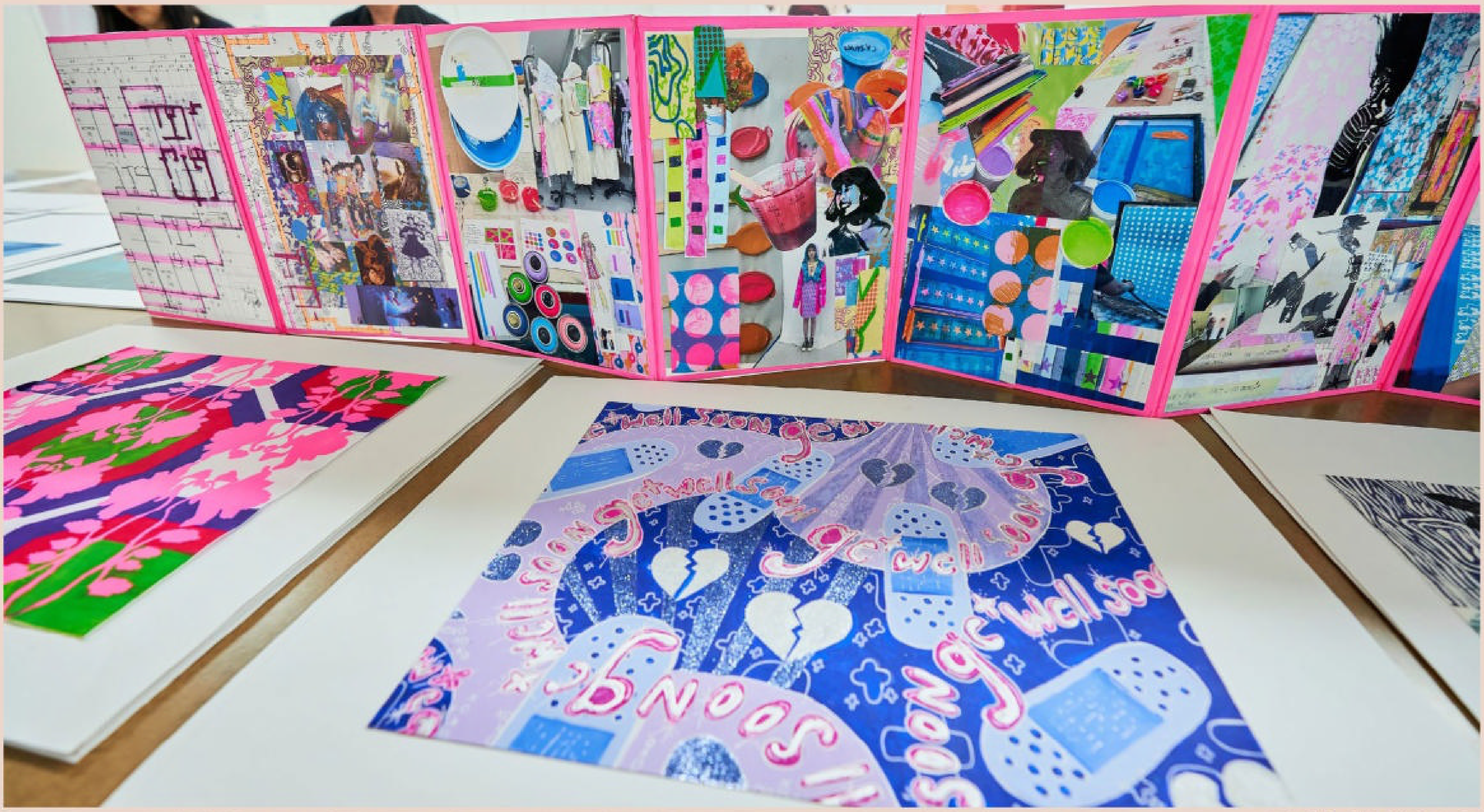
Photography By: Rey Del Fierro

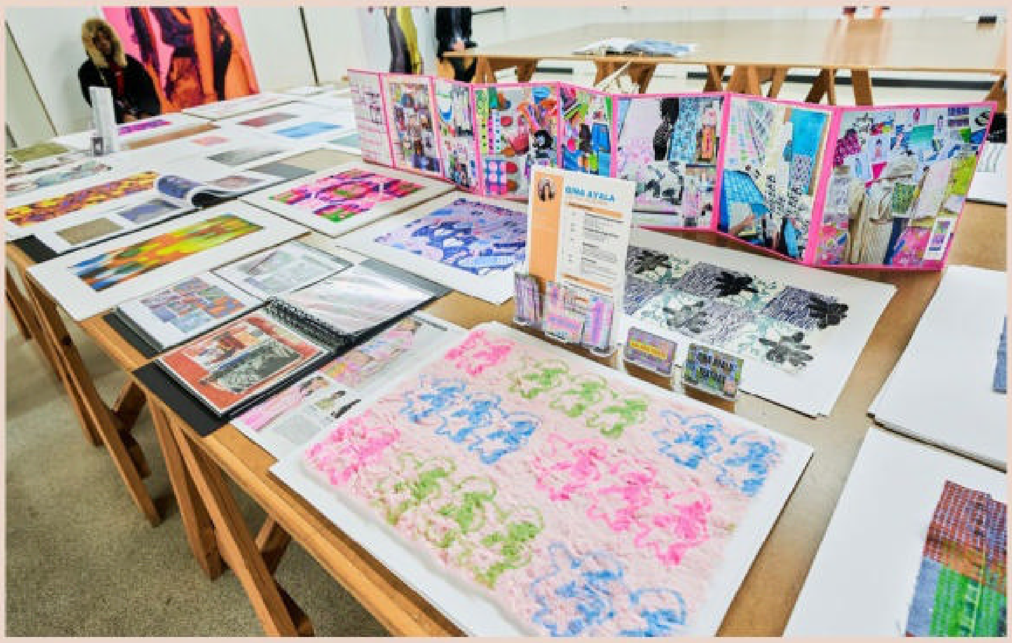


The annual Fashion Show evening began with Elisa Stephens, Academy of Art University President, hosting a private reception for the School of Fashion's first Industry Advisory Board. The thirteen-member board will serve a two-year term and is comprised of professionals from a wide range of industries, including fashion design, costume design, textile design, talent acquisition, education, communication, and business. Many front-row fashion show attendees were also at the reception, including the Honorable Sergio Strozzi, Consul General of Italy, Tony Bravo, Yaya Cantu, Annamaria Di Giorgio, Diane Dorrans Saeks, Heide Van Doren Betz, Toni Wolfson, and Carolyne Zinko. Guests enjoyed drinks and hors d'oeuvres while catching up and discussing their excitement for the fashion show.

SAN FRANCISCO 1929
TS FOR ARTISTS

GRADUATION
FASHION SHO


get well soon



ARTPOP

Champagne
Dom Pérignon
Vintage 2013

Dom Pérignon

& LADY GAGA

Enjoy responsibly. Over 18s only. bedrinkaware.co.uk

BUSINESS
CONCEPT

Get Your Print Copy Now! SCAN, CLICK & COLLECT

Buy on MagCloud

DOLCE & GABBANA
DOLCEGABBANA.COM
BUSINESS CONCEPT
PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA
WWW.PLPG.NEWS
SPECIAL EDITION
@BUSINESSCONCEPTMAG
MAY 2023
ANITA PINTO
A REMARKABLE LATINA ENTREPRENEUR AND THE VISIONARY BEHIND THE FASHION BRAND MYMYWORLDWIDE

PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA
PLPG GLOBAL MEDIA, LLC
PUBLICOMLATINA PUBLISHING GROUP S.A.S

WWW.PLPG.NEWS @BUSINESSCONCEPTMAG WWW.PLPG.ONLINE

DOLCE & GABBANA
DOLCEGABBANA.COM

DOLCE & GABBANA
DOLCEGABBANA.COM

DOLCE & GABBANA
DOLCEGABBANA.COM

DOLCE & GABBANA
DOLCEGABBANA.COM